THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS
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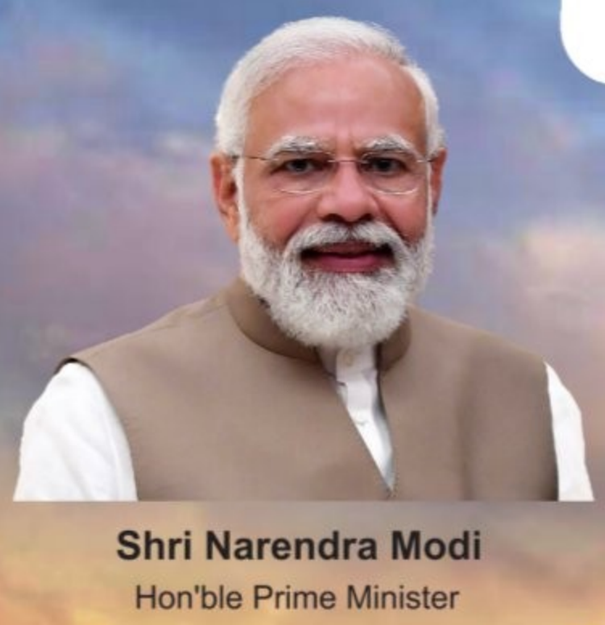
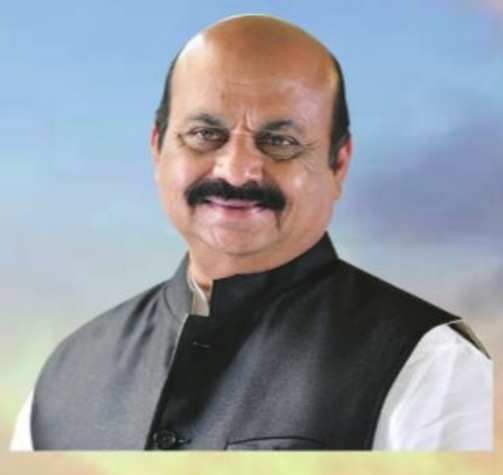
PM Modi takes dig at Ashok Gehlot over budget speech goof-up

Dausa (Rajasthan): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday took a dig at Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot for reading portions from the state's last year Budget speech while presenting the Budget for 2023-24, saying, "Anybody can make a mistake, but this shows the Congress has neither vision nor gravitas (wajan) and its plans and announcements remained just on paper," Modi said | P7

Government of India | G20 | Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav | NAVA KARNATAKA FOR NAVA BHARAT



Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Karnataka Soars High in Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing under the able leadership of
Hon'ble Prime Minister
Shri Narendra Modi

Aero INDIA 2023
The RUNWAY To A Billion Opportunities

A Display of the Growing Might of India's Aerospace and Defence Sectors

2023 - Year of India's G20 Presidency
(Dec 1, 2022 - Nov 30, 2023)

Aero INDIA 2023 - 14th Aero Show
13th - 17th FEBRUARY 2023
Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru
Visit the Government of Karnataka Pavilion at Hall 'E'

2023 AERO INDIA

Largest Ever Aero India

	Aero India-21	Aero India-23
Exhibition Area	23,000 sqm	35,000 sqm
No. of Exhibitors	600	809
Foreign Countries	55	98

Karnataka - Leader in Aerospace Industry in India

- Attractive incentives with Aerospace and Defence Policies 2022-27
- Bengaluru is one of the top 3 global aerospace hubs in attracting FDI.
- 67% of India's Defence Aircraft and helicopters are made in Karnataka.
- Karnataka contributes 65% of India's total Aerospace and Defence exports.
- A quarter of India's aircraft and spacecraft industry is based in Karnataka.

HAL's LCA-Tejas Aircraft

- LCA-Tejas Aircraft in FOC (Full Operational Capability) Configuration - The Centre Stage of India Pavilion 2023
- Exclusive India Pavilion with Fixed Wing Platform theme to showcase India's growth in the fixed wing area

Key Features

- One of the smallest & lightest aircraft in its class
- Excellent flight safety record
- Available in four variants
- Supersonic at all altitude with minimalistic RCS
- Open architecture enabling customized weapon integration
- Maintenance friendly with low operating cost

KARNATAKA - A Leading Destination for Investment

- At the World Economic Forum Meet held in Davos, MoUs worth Rs. 52,000 crore signed.
- At the Global Investors Meet held in Nov. 2022 in the state, Karnataka signed MoUs worth Rs. 9.8 lakh crore. This will create 6 lakh employment opportunities. 90% of this investment will be made in places beyond Bengaluru.
- State with the highest growth rate in GST collection
- Karnataka topped for three consecutive years in NITI Aayog's Innovation Index
- No. 1 in the 2020 ease-of-doing business ranking of DPIIT
- Has moved to 'Top Achiever' position from 17th position

Industrial Policy 2020-2025

- Turnover-based encouragement across zones (PLI scheme)
- Fillip to cluster-based industries to encourage specific zones
- Beyond Bengaluru scheme for integrated industrial development
- One District-One Product: Thrust to industries in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities under the 'Atma Nirbhar' scheme

Why Karnataka is the best state for investment?

Industry-friendly policies | Availability of land with efficient logistics network | Ease of Doing Business | Highly skilled and trained manpower | Good infrastructure

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

'GOVT MUST EXPAND ACCESS TO EDUCATION, TECH IN RURAL AREAS'

Experts want more allocation for education in budget; Say more should be done to eliminate deficiencies in govt schools and colleges

DONNA EVA @Bengaluru

WITH the state budget round the corner, experts and organisations have expressed what they are expecting this year in terms of education. From long-standing demands to changes needed due to the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the overall consensus from stakeholders in the education sector is that there needs to be more allocation towards education.

"A recent survey showed the widening learning gap for foundational skills, which can also be attributed to schools remaining closed across the country during the pandemic, and the need to address this is critical. We urge the government to focus on expanding access to education and technology, particularly in rural and underserved areas. The loss of learning is a stark reality and transcends the rural-urban divide in government schools," said Niru Agarwal, trustee of Greenwood High International School.

RUN-UP TO BUDGET 2023-24

The Karnataka Associated Managements Of English Medium Schools (KAMS) said that they have had several long-standing demands left over from the pandemic. Speaking to *TNIE*, KAMS general secretary D Shashi Kumar said that private schools had been struggling since the pandemic to ensure that students are properly looked after. "We have made several demands of the government, most important of which is to ensure that teaching and non-teaching staff of private unaided schools are considered for healthcare schemes provided by the government. Meanwhile, we are also hoping that the government addresses the issues faced by private schools in shouldering the responsibility of the government in educating students during the pandemic," he said.

Kumar stated that a lot of the private unaided schools, especially in North Karnataka, are budget schools and had been struggling since the pandemic due to a lack of financial support from the government. Meanwhile, he added that financial assistance must also be given to the schools in implementing NEP, especially in providing training to teachers.

"More money should also be allocated to eliminate the deficiencies seen in government schools and colleges. We are also asking that the government abandon its school closure policy in the name of 'merging' schools. There should also be an increase in funding for higher education, as well as recruitment of permanent teachers and lecturers in government educational institutions," AIDSO's Karnataka State Committee said in a list of demands.

Teacher training

Dr Trishta, founder of Ekya School, and Provost, CMR University, said, "We hope the government allocates funds to strengthen teacher training and development programmes and establish state-of-the-art teacher training institutes. These programmes will empower the creation of highly qualified and accomplished educators with the necessary expertise and abilities to facilitate exemplary lessons in the classroom. Similarly, the funds can be utilised to set up teacher-mentoring initiatives that enable veteran educators to impart their expertise and abilities to aspiring teachers.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRAION

Duo trespass Metro tracks, disrupt services for 10 minutes

ENS @Bengaluru

TWO Metro commuters trespassed on the Metro rail tracks at the Mahakavi Kuvempu Road metro station on Saturday. Their action impacted train services on the Green Line for 10 minutes on Saturday, and the duo was booked under the Metro Act.

While incidents involving cats, dogs, birds and even peacocks walking across Metro tracks have occurred in the past, public walking across the rail tracks is rare as the home guards or BMRCL staffers do not permit anyone to cross the cautionary yellow line on the edge of the platform. The Third Rail, which supplies 750 V Direct Current Voltage, to power Metro trains runs parallel to the tracks across the Metro network and no one is allowed near it for safety reasons.

Kuvempu Road station lies between Srirampura and Rajajinagar Metro stations.

"The incident happened on Saturday morning. The two passengers hail from a rural area and it was their first Metro trip. Since they wanted to cross over to the opposite platform for their train, they decided to jump down the platform they were standing on and cross over the tracks," Chief Public Relations Officer, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited, B L Yashwanth Chavan said.

"As soon as their attempt to cross the tracks was spotted by our staff, they activated the Emergency Trip System bringing operations to a halt, he said. "The operations at this station was stopped for 10 minutes and four trains passing through the station suffered delays," Chavan said. The duo was booked under Section (64) of the Metro Safety Act. They were fined Rs 250 each and let off after a warning.

CRS inspection for Heelalige stretch on Feb 20

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

AFTER a two-month delay over a previous announcement, the 10.5-km stretch between Heelalige and Karmelaram is set to be the first doubling segment to be commissioned by the Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Enterprises (K-RIDE) shortly.

The Commissioner of Rail Safety will be inspecting this stretch on February 20, said a senior official.

This forms part of the 48-km doubling project between Baiyappanahalli and Hosur being built at a cost of Rs 498 crore. The full stretch will be launched next year.

The doubling project was handed over to K-RIDE from the South Western Railway Zone for speedier execution. Trains on the Bengaluru-Salem line can improve their punctuality to a limited extent after the Heelalige stretch is commissioned as trains no longer have to wait at Karmelaram for crossing, since two tracks would be available.

EXPRESS READ

CANCELLED TRAINS RESTORED

BENGALURU: A pair of trains, the Yesvantpur-Hosur MEMU expresss Special (Train no. 06591) from Yesvantpur and the Hosur-Yesvantpur MEMU Express Special from Hosur (Train no. 06592), which were cancelled on January 13 and 14 have now been restored. They will run as per the regular schedule. The cancellation was on account of interloccking works at Heelalige station, said an official release.

Congress workers hold a protest in front of CMS, Jain Deemed-to-be-University, in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Skit row: NSUI, KPCC protest outside college

ENS @Bengaluru

MEMBERS of National Students Union of India (NSUI) and Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) workers raised slogans outside the Centre for Management Studies (CMS), Jain Deemed-to-be-University, demanding for action against the management.

The institution also drew flak from several Dalit organisations. A complaint has been lodged against 10 members at the Siddapura Police Station for destroying college property, an NSUI member said.

NSUI president Keerthi Ganesh said they want strict action to be taken against the college authorities, as they allowed a skit containing several casteist remarks, to be performed on premises. The skit, performed by a group of students named The Delroys Boys, ended up with casteist dialogues, even seemingly targeting Dr BR Ambedkar, besides using words like "untouchability" to push humour.

Officials from the university stated that they do not support or encourage casteism in any form. They even formed a disciplinary committee to evaluate the issue and later suspended the six students involved. Ganesh alleged that the college's claims of the skit being performed on the spot were false.

Meanwhile, the Higher Education Department has stated that it will be looking into the issue. In a statement issued by Higher Education Minister Dr CN Ashwath Narayan, he stated that the incident was unacceptable and ordered a probe into the matter. The minister has directed Higher Education Principal Secretary Rashmi Mahesh to submit a report.

Speaking to reporters, the minister termed the incident unfortunate. He said that any insult to Dr Ambedkar was unacceptable, and strict action would be taken, following a probe.

11 new flyovers: Activists threaten 'yaake' protest

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

Days after Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced that 11 more flyovers will come up to decongest traffic in Bengaluru, mobility experts and activists expressed serious concerns over the plan.

Expressing anger over the CM's announcement, Preeti Sunderajan from 'Citizens for Sankey' said, "It is shocking to hear the CM talk about 11 flyovers being approved when there is a major issue surrounding the Sankey flyover project. We as citizens must be informed about what is going on around us and participate actively to get the government do what is best for us. We remember the time when 'steelflyoverbeda' was a success. Now, we will make 'flyoveryaake' a success too."

Activist Brinda Adige said the civil society knows what is best for the city and has given suggestions to the government which have fallen on deaf dears.

Echoing similar concerns, activist Prabha Dev from 'Citizen For Bengaluru' said, "Citizen groups have spent a lot of time and effort consulting experts on how redundant flyovers are as a solution to decongest traffic. The government should involve the public from all wards and zones from the planning stage itself."

Appealing to Bengalureans to stop such projects, Shaheen Shasa from Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike opined that widespread opposition to road-widening projects from 2005 to 2011 or the steel flyover 'Beda' campaign in 2016 or the campaign against city-wide elevated corridors in 2018, people's movements have been successful in pushing back such projects in the past. "People from across the city should come together and oppose the widespread destruction of the city in the name of road widening and flyovers," stressed Shasa.

According to Prof Ashish Verma, a mobility expert from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, said the flyovers announced by the CM will not solve the traffic problems. "Take the latest example of the Shivananda Circle Flyover. The whole purpose of building the flyover is defeated as there is a bottleneck near the railway bridge, besides traffic on the flyover getting slowed down. The government should instead synchronise the traffic signals to get the desired results. The signal synchronisation is free of cost whereas building a flyover involves heavy expenditure," said Verma.

BMTF OP

Ex-corporator held, Rs 25 crore worth land seized

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

FORMER corporator, Jagadish MR (54), who allegedly encroached several sites meant for Civic Amenity (CA) purpose in the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA)-approved ITI Layout in Bengaluru South and even brazenly blocked public roads in the vicinity by erecting compound walls, was arrested by the Bangalore Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF) on Wednesday. The government land encroached by Jagadish, which is worth around Rs 25 crore, has been recovered.

The land in Yellukunte village in Begur hobli had been handed over to the ITI Housing Board Cooperative Housing Society by the government to form a layout.

Additional Director General of Police, BMTF, K Ramachandra Rao told TNIE, "We received complaints from residents in the area nearly a year ago. We visited the spot long ago and asked him to remove the blockade multiple times but he refused. The wall he had erected on the road prevented public from visiting their own property."

BMTF then asked the BDA to carry out a detailed survey of the layout and came to light that multiple CA sites had been encroached upon. The Executive Engineer of the BDA filed a complaint with the BMTF."

The BMTF registered a case under multiple sections and arrested Jagadish, said Rao. A team led by Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sridhar K Poojara, was involved in the operation on February 8. Jagadish has been booked under sections 420, 468, 471, 448, RV 33A and 72 of the BDA Act. He was produced before the judicial magistrate and remanded in judicial custody till February 22, Rao added.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

13TH February : We're approaching another turning-point in the solar cycle. This one points to a slight dip in levels of stability and an equivalent rise in lively energies and overall restlessness. It follows that it's a good period for many of us to do those things which we always wanted to do but never did. There's no time like the present!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Today it's Uranus, that most distant and surprising of celestial bodies, which gives you the chance to skip the normal preliminaries in putting your ambitions into effect. Cash questions will preoccupy you later on, perhaps with unexpected results.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
It's fair to say that your planetary patterns are favourable, all the more so if your inclination is generally inspired, visionary even. The closer you come to practical responsibilities, the greater the need for additional care and caution.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Partners can't read your mind, so tell them what you think. If your aims are professional, and if you're planning a spot of personal promotion, you could do worse than set your sights on the next few days. You may just receive a windfall, even if only on a modest scale.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The Moon is normally such a sympathetic planet, but today it leaves you in no doubt that it is other people who require your loving care and sympathy. Reach out and offer the hand of support to those in need. They will pay you back in their own way - when they can.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
There's no escape from busy planetary pictures and hence no way to avoid your responsibilities. The best course may be to get as much achieved as you possibly can, in order to give yourself more scope for relaxation tomorrow and the day after. Have a break. Put your feet up!

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You may see creative self-expression as a voluntary activity, but the planets don't agree. Today, in so many little ways, you may be compelled to be an individual and be true to your own utterly unique talents. Employers please note! And family members please take care!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
There seems little doubt that home and family affairs will dominate your thoughts and feelings today. Even if you are determined to give the highest priority to work, it will be deep and fundamental issues which demand your attention, including your domestic relationships.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Some celestial indications suggest that you may be called away from home, possibly on account of work or a similar responsibility. In any event, the main goal is to communicate clearly and make yourself properly understood. Someone else may owe you an apology, but don't hold your breath!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Business affairs will occupy your attention. Your financial stars are looking considerably less complex than this time last year, and today you may cut across a whole series of irrelevant hangovers like the proverbial hot knife through butter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
The ball is in your court. Tackle private affairs and deal with professional activities only if you feel a deep personal motivation. Romantic encounters and sentimental journeys are desirable, if only because the results may be much more delightful than expected.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Any feelings of uncertainty or confusion should be short-lived, and by late tomorrow you could be back in the driving seat. In the meantime, remember that you're now into a fantastically productive long-term cycle. The world will judge you by your deeds rather than your words.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Sometimes you just have to pay more attention to your own needs. After a long period of social responsibility, you may begin to streamline your personal commitments. If you're typical of your sign, your inclination is to withdraw from a particular public arena.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

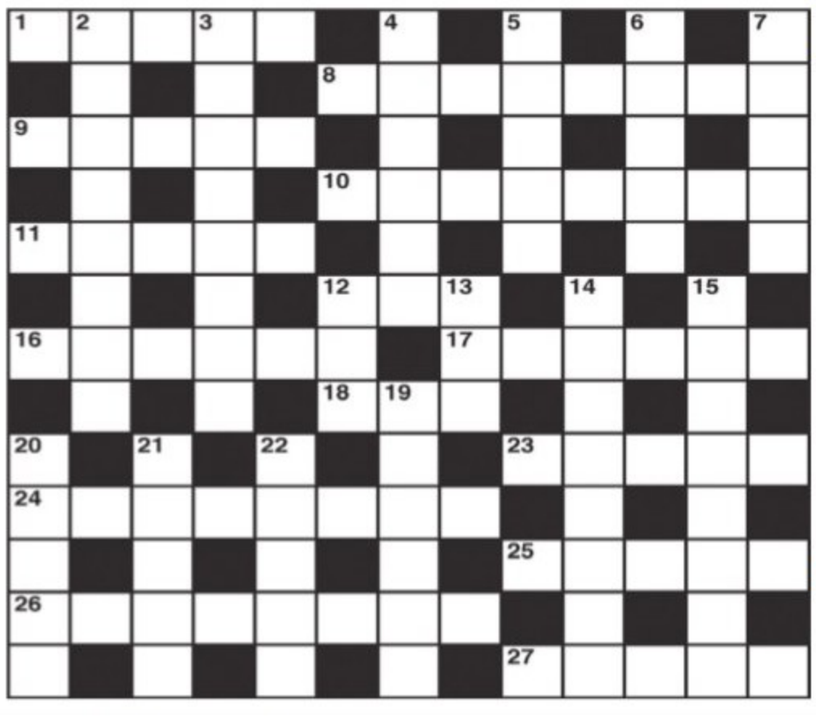
					8		5	
2			5	4	1			
		6			2		3	4
	6	4				7		8
8		7				5	6	
4	9		1			6		
			3	6	4			5
	2		8					

7	9	4	8	1	3	6	5	2
6	5	1	9	2	4	7	8	3
2	8	3	6	7	5	9	1	4
9	2	5	3	6	1	4	7	8
8	1	6	4	5	7	3	2	9
4	3	7	2	9	8	5	6	1
1	6	8	7	4	9	2	3	5
3	7	9	5	8	2	1	4	6
5	4	2	1	3	6	8	9	7

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 A huge shipping order? (5)
8 Posts include gratuity and wages (8)
9 Short walk for a barrister (5)
10 Bargain lot (4,4)
11 Viewpoint that may vary to some degree (5)
12 High point of an architectural plan (3)
16 It's limited and can't be found in the outskirts of Sydney (6)
17 Possible effect of giving us port! (6)
18 Old priest among the Israelites (3)
23 Not the first man to go on board (5)
24 Fashionable writer will make his mark (8)
25 Notice Tim returning and let him in (5)
26 Highly attractive part of Belgium (8)
27 Potatoes softly immersed in lather (5)

DOWN
2 Girl executed in the bullring (8)
3 School subject some find enchanting (8)
4 There's no purpose to this journey (6)
5 One in a dark suit (5)
6 Not above using two foreign articles (5)
7 An air of devotion (5)
12 Once always included in prayers (3)
13 Perhaps it includes a letter from Greece (3)
14 Stopped when rebuked (6,2)
15 Its religious education has been guaranteed (8)
19 Be bold perhaps and aimed high (6)
20 Doctor investing in a foreign currency (5)
21 We hear a sighed utterance (5)
22 Admit Lee was no match for him (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Opposition, 6 Idea, 10 Ideal, 11 Adulthood, 12 Cashmere, 13 Rupee, 15 Overrun, 17 Thieves, 19 Octavia, 21 Maypole, 22 Infer, 24 Called in, 27 Canvassed, 28 Naive, 29 Stye, 30 Psychiatry.

Down: 1 Obit, 2 Prevalent, 3 Sylph, 4 Trade in, 5 Opulent, 7 Droop, 8 Addressees, 9 Eternity, 14 Go to pieces, 16 Reversal, 18 Violinist, 20 Accuses, 21 Melodic, 23 Fancy, 25 Ennui, 26 Levy.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

SODUK

BROTI

NLOTUD

PXTEER

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: LADLE BRAVE BROKER EMBARK
Answer: H. Lipman's invention of the wood-cased pencil with an attached eraser was — REMARKABLE

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CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

U.S. TAKES DOWN MYSTERIOUS FLYING OBJECT OVER CANADA

A cylindrical-shaped object was shot down over Yukon, a day after another was downed over Alaska. The object was first spotted by the US over Alaska on Saturday evening before it entered the Canadian airspace. Canadian defence minister Anita Anand said it was flying at a height of 40,000 feet and posed a threat to civilian aircraft. The decision to shoot it down was taken after a call between US President Joe Biden and Canadian leader Justin Trudeau.

THE NEW LINE-UP

Lt Gen Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Lakshman Prasad Acharya (SIKKIM)

Anusuiya Uikye
MANIPUR

C P Radhakrishnan
JHARKHAND

La Ganesan
NAGALAND

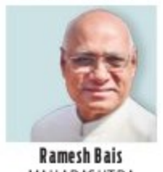
Shiv Pratap Shukla
HIMACHAL PRADESH

Phagu Chouhan
MEGHALAYA

Gulab Chand Kataria (ASSAM)

Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar (BIHAR)

Justice (retd) S Abdul Nazeer (AP)



Ramesh Bais
MAHARASHTRA

Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
CHHATTISGARH

Brig (retd) BD Mishra
LADAKH

In major rejig, Prez changes 13 guvs in one go

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

IN a major reshuffle, President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday appointed governors for 12 states and lieutenant governor for Union Territory Ladakh.

The appointments, which were made following the Centre's recommendations, included that of former Supreme Court judge S Abdul Nazeer, who was part of several Constitution benches that delivered judgments on issues ranging from demonetisation to the politically sensitive Ayodhya dispute. His appointment as governor of Andhra Pradesh comes five weeks after his superannuation on January 4.

BJP leaders Lakshman Prasad Acharya, C P Radhakrishnan, Shiv Pratap Shukla and Gulab Chand Kataria have been appointed for Sikkim, Jharkhand, Himachal and Assam, respectively.

Acharya is a member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council. Radhakrishnan is a two-time Lok Sabha MP from Coimbatore. Shukla is a former minister of state for finance. Kataria is the Leader of Opposition in Rajasthan Assembly.

Maharashtra governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, who has been in the line of fire over his remarks on Chhatrapati Shivaji, and Ladakh lieutenant-governor R K Mathur have been replaced by Jharkhand governor Ramesh Bais and ex-Army brigadier B D Mishra, respectively. Mathur had faced stiff opposition led by education reformist Sonam Wangchuk in the Union territory.

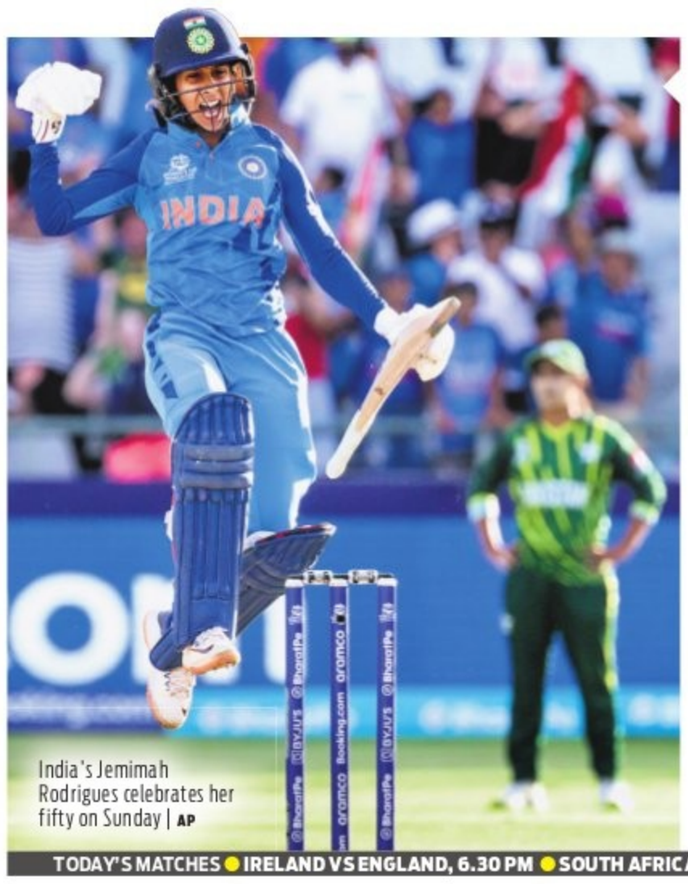
In other decisions, Bihar governor Phagu Chouhan has been appointed governor of Meghalaya while Himachal Pradesh's Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar has been sent to Bihar.

Lt Gen Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik (retd) is the new Arunchal Pradesh governor, while RSS veteran La Ganesan has been appointed Nagaland governor, Anusuiya Uikye as governor of Manipur and Biswa Bhusan Harichandan as governor of Chhattisgarh. | P8

NEW AP GUV HAS HIS ROOTS IN DAKSHINA KANNADA: P4

Nazeer's appointment threat to judiciary: Cong

New Delhi: The Congress on Sunday lashed out at the Centre over the appointment of retired Supreme Court judge S Abdul Nazeer as the governor of Andhra Pradesh. It reminded the BJP-led Central government of remarks made by its own late leader Arun Jaitley who had said "pre-retirement judgements are influenced by post-retirement jobs".



India's Jemimah Rodrigues celebrates her fifty on Sunday | AP

TODAY'S MATCHES ● IRELAND VS ENGLAND, 6.30 PM ● SOUTH AFRICA VS NEW ZEALAND, 10.30 PM

JEMIMAH, RICHA FIND NEW LAND

In a topsy-turvy contest, India held their nerves to start the campaign with a fine win in Cape Town. A look...

JEMIMAH SEIZES THE MOMENT

In the lead-up to the World Cup, Jemimah Rodrigues was struggling for form. But, on Sunday, under pressure, the Mumbai batter delivered. She made an unbeaten 53 as India cruised home with an over to spare at the Newlands

RADHA SHINES WITH BALL

Coming into the tournament, it was not clear if India would field both left-arm spinners, but they did and Radha Yadav took the opportunity to get some form back. She took two wickets for 21 runs and was the most economical among the frontline Indian bowlers. Despite late surge, Pakistan managed to score 149/4

TAHUHU AND HER TRAVAILS

New Zealand's Lea Tahuhu was an administrator in an oil and gas company before shifting to cricket. Despite being NZ's top pacer she has been let out of central contracts too.

—Gomesh S reports from SA

EXPRESS READ

Youth killed in tiger attack in Kodagu

MADIKERI: An 18-year-old youth was killed by a tiger inside an estate in south Kodagu on Sunday evening. Chetan, son of estate labourers from Panchavalli in Hunsur, had come with his parents to work at a private estate in K Badaga village. He was playing on the estate premises in the evening when the tiger attacked him, killing him on the spot.

Aero India today: Top cop assures smooth traffic

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FOLLOWING the traffic logjam on Saturday morning on roads leading to Air Force Station, Yelahanka (AFSY), where the biennial air show Aero India 2023 will take off on Monday morning, traffic police will be on the roads to prevent a repeat of the nightmare on the inaugural day of the event. Special Commissioner of Police (Traffic) MA Saleem told TNIE that the traffic police are fully prepared to manage the traffic smoothly. "We have issued a traffic advisory to the public and they just need to follow it for smooth travel. The traffic curbs will be in effect from 6 am as those attending the event have to reach the venue by 8.30 am."

The elevated road on Bellary Road from Esteem Mall will be closed for all types of vehicles between 8 am to 11.30 am. Only vehicles with valid vehicle passes for Aero India will be allowed while people going towards Yelahanka and adjoining areas are advised to take the service road below the elevated road. P4

CM Bommai welcomes PM Modi at HAL Airport in Bengaluru | EXPRESS

PM MODI ARRIVES IN CITY, TO INAUGURATE EVENT AT 9.30 AM

PM Narendra Modi, who arrived in Bengaluru on Sunday, will be inaugurating Aero India 2023 at 9.30 am at Air Force Station, Yelahanka (AFSY) on Monday. The PM, who stayed overnight in Raj Bhavan, will reach HAL Airport by road from where a helicopter will fly him to AFSY.

ASIA'S BIGGEST AIR SHOW TAKES OFF TODAY

Defence Minister Rajnath and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai at the curtain-raiser event for Aero India 2023, in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

A GRANDER AERO INDIA

HIGHLIGHTS	2021	2023
Exhibition Area	23,000 sqm	35,000 sqm
Flying Display	64	67
Static Display	19	36
No. of Exhibitors	600	809
Foreign Countries	55	98
MoUs - Bandhan	201	251

Source: Ministry of Defence

PIC: VINOD KUMAR T

'Need public support for smooth traffic'

CONTINUED FROM P3

"TRAFFIC police will be on the ground to regulate traffic, and the public need to cooperate for better regulation," Saleem said, adding that people heading to offices and other places need not worry about getting stuck in the traffic. Except for KSRTC and BMTC buses, movement of lorries, trucks, private buses and all types of heavy and medium goods vehicles, tractors has been banned on both sides from 6 am to 8 pm on Bellary Road from Mehkri Junction till the M Visvesvaraya Institute of Technology gate, from Goraguntepalya to Hennuru, from Nagawara Jn to Thanisandra main road Bagaluru main road to Reva College Jn, from Bangalore-Tumkur Road Goraguntepalya, Hessarghatta and Chikkabanava towards city.

ALTERNATE ROUTES TO KIA

Bengaluru East side to KIA: KRPuram-Hennur Cross-Bagaluru-Mylanahalli-Beguru back gate and reach KIA.
Bengaluru West side to KIA: Goraguntepalya-BEL Circle-Gangamma Circle-Mother Dairy-Unnikrishnan Junction-Doddaballapura Road - Rajanakunte - Addiganahalli - MVIT - Vidyanagar Cross- KIA.
Bengaluru South to KIA: Mysore Rd-Nayandahalli- Goraguntepalya-BEL Circle-Gangamma Circle-Doddaballapura Road-Rajanukunte- MVIT Cross-Vidyanagar Cross and reach KIA.

IT'LL SHOWCASE OUR MANUFACTURING PROWESS: RAJNATH

MAYANK SINGH @ Bengaluru

THE 14th edition of Asia's largest aero show — Aero India 2023 — will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday.

The air show and exhibition spanning over five days, the event, on the theme 'The runway to a billion opportunities', will be displaying India's growth in aerospace and defence capabilities.

Addressing the curtain raiser press conference in Bengaluru on Sunday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh stated that the Aero India will showcase the country's manufacturing prowess and the progress achieved towards realising self reliance. "This event will significantly contribute to the development of the aerospace and aviation sector, he said.

The event will be the biggest so far as it is being held in a total area of 35,000 sqm, and is likely to witness participation from 98 countries. The defence ministers of 32 countries, air chiefs of 29 countries and 73 CEOs of global and Indian Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are expected to attend the event, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said.

As many as 809 defence companies, including MSMEs and startups, will showcase the advancement in niche technologies and the growth in the aerospace and defence sector.

The event will begin on February 13 and will be open only for business purposes till 15, while 16 and 17 are for the members of the public to witness the extravaganza.

The event comprises a Defence Ministers' Conclave; a CEOs Round Table; Manthan start-up event; Bandhan ceremony; breath-taking air shows; a large exhibition; India Pavilion and a trade fair of aerospace companies.

As per the MoD, Aero India 2023 will showcase design leadership, growth in UAVs Sector, Defence Space and futuristic technologies. The event aims to promote export of indigenous air platforms like Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)-Tejas, HTT-40, Dornier Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) and Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH). It will integrate domestic MSMEs and start-ups in the global supply chain and attract foreign investments including the partnerships for co-development and co-production.

Rajnath Singh emphasised that Aero India 2023 will provide a renewed thrust to the Union Government's efforts to create a vibrant and world-class domestic defence industry in order to achieve the goal of 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence as well as overall development of the nation. "A strong and self-reliant defence sector will play a pivotal role in helping India emerge as one of the top three world economies in the times to come. Achievements in the defence sector provide wide spin-off benefits to the Indian economy. The technologies developed in the field are equally useful for civilian purposes. In addition, a temperament towards science & technology and innovation is created in the society, which helps in the overall development of the nation," he said.

Karnataka Pavilion

Aero India will have a separate Karnataka Pavilion which will showcase opportunities available in the state. "The state will become the centre of defence and aerospace manufacturing for the whole world in the times to come," Defence Minister Rajnath Singh hoped.

Major Exhibitors

Airbus, Boeing, Dassault Aviation, Lockheed Martin, Israel Aerospace Industry, BrahMos Aerospace, Army Aviation, HC Robotics, SAAB, Safran, Rolls Royce, Larsen & Toubro, Bharat Forge Limited, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), and BEML Limited

Holding air show during pandemic boosted our confidence, says Bommai

HRITHIK KIRAN BAGADE @ Bengaluru

ON the eve of the 14th edition of Aero India event in Bengaluru — set to be the largest so far — Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai not only highlighted Karnataka's pivotal role in the aviation and aerospace sector of the country, but also the achievement of holding the last edition through the pandemic when several other countries had cancelled or postponed their air shows. That spoke volumes of India's capacity and boosted the confidence to hold better and larger air shows, he said.

Addressing the media at the curtain raiser of Aero India 2023, Bommai said Karnataka, including its capital Bengaluru, has a 67% share of defence and aerospace manufacturing services of India. "A lot of credit to our aerospace development must go to Karnataka. We have aerospace policies, an aerospace and defence park, the first phase of which is already operational. The second phase is also taking off. This state is a hub, it is the future, and the best place to have an air show."

The CM said with Bengaluru manufacturing different parts of an aircraft, "my dream is that we build our own aircraft in our country, in Bengaluru."

Addressing delegates at the curtain raiser of Aero India 2023, Bommai said: "Karnataka is playing a very important role as far as aerospace is concerned. As a pioneer, it is the oldest state to have an aerospace manufacturing hub. Over the years, we have been able to provide various required technologies to this industry. In 1960, another feather was added to Bengaluru's aerospace cap -- ISRO... and in the 1980s, the Light Combat Aircraft was envisioned. Every decade has been a decade of aerospace for Bengaluru, and it was not built in a day."

Bommai pointed out that unlike many other nations which cancelled their respective air shows during the height of the pandemic, the 13th edition of Aero India was held in 2021 albeit with some needed changes. Recalling that edition, the CM said, "Every time, we have been successful in portraying our aerospace and defence industry capabilities. India's capacity to host the air show was challenged during Covid; even the Paris Air Show was cancelled. But we went on to have the show successfully. That speaks volumes of the capability of our defence and aerospace industries. That experience has only increased our confidence."

"Both for Karnataka and Bengaluru, it has become a habit to host the show. Thanks to our forefathers who invested their might and intelligence in Bengaluru to build an aerospace ecosystem," he added.

US delegation to Aero India one of the largest ever: Diplomat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE size of this year's US delegation to Aero India is one of the biggest ever. "The size of the US delegation is impressive and the growing diplomatic and security cooperation over the last year show that the US-India strategic partnership is one of our most consequential relationships," said the head of the US delegation to Aero India, Chargé d'Affaires, Ambassador A Elizabeth Jones here on Sunday.

Jones said that as partners, both the countries are strengthening cooperation on critical technologies, from space components to semiconductors. "As partners, we are working together to address climate change; improve global health and prepare for new pandemics; cooperate on cyber challenges; build quality infrastructure; and ensure sustainable supply chains," she added.

She also pointed out that two weeks ago, India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval had met his counterpart at the White House to launch the initiative on critical and emerging technologies where they pledged to accelerate joint development and production through a bilateral defence industrial cooperation roadmap.

She mentioned that Saturday was the first anniversary of President Biden's Indo Pacific strategy that underpins India and the US' crucial partnership "to ensure a free and open prosperous, connected, rules based and resilient Indo Pacific region where both the democracies can thrive."

The US diplomat said that she will open the USA Partnership Pavilion at Aero India on Monday.

US Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, Jedidiah P Royal, said that a free and open Indo-Pacific region requires a strong and militarily capable India and the US is excited to partner with India promoting this shared vision for the future.

He added that the Biden-Harris administration is "focussed on putting maximum effort into bolstering India's military capabilities and rise as a defence industrial power."

Royal said that the US companies have established engineering centres and manufacturing hubs, and have also invested in building R&D centres that harness India's talented scientists and engineers to advance cutting edge R&D projects.

"The US accounts for one of the largest destinations for Indian defence exports in aerospace and defence products. In the last five years alone, US investments in India had generated roughly a quarter of India's defence exports," he added. "India has the largest C-17 fleet outside the US, which was extensively used for providing critical aid and supplies as part of 'Operation Dost' for the earthquake relief effort in Turkey and Syria," said Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of the US Air Force, International Affairs, Major General Julian Cheater.

"Under the US-India Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI), we signed the first ever UAV co-development project agreement in September, 2021. This was the largest research and development effort between our two militaries," said Major General Cheater.

New AP Guv has his roots in Dakshina Kannada

DIVYA CUTINHO @ Mangaluru

SUPREME Court retired judge Justice **S Abdul Nazeer,** who hails from Beluvai in Moodbidri located 41 km from Mangaluru, has been appointed as the third Governor of Andhra Pradesh by President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday.

Born on January 5, 1958, the 65-year-old hails from a humble background and completed his graduation in commerce from Mahaveera College in Moodbidri. He obtained a law degree from SDM Law College, Mangaluru in 1981 and enrolled as an advocate in 1983. He was appointed as a permanent judge of the Karnataka High Court in 2004.

His friends say that Justice Nazeer was a hardworking person who did part-time jobs to complete his education.

"I was a batchmate of Justice Nazeer in LLB degree. We had classes for two hours in the morning and one hour in the evening. He was very quiet in the class. He hailed from a poor economic background and he did not depend on anyone. He did part-time jobs related to accounts, including at a hotel...

this helped him in his education. He started his profession under MK Vijay Kumar in Karkala and then he shifted to Bengaluru and Justice Vishwanath Shetty was his main support. He was a man of simplicity," said advocate Kallige Taranath Shetty, former president of Mangaluru Bar Association.

Justice Nazeer and his wife loved animals and they had several dogs and cats as pets at their residence even during his tenure as a Supreme Court judge. "His wife even carried their pets both dogs and cats, in a train to New Delhi after he was appointed as SC judge," said Taranath Shetty. His close friends say Justice Nazeer was upset when he lost his mother and brother recently. They opined that he worked in favour of getting the best of the infrastructure to bar associations of every taluk in Dakshina Kannada.

Justice Nazeer, who retired on January 4 this year, will succeed Biswa Bhusan Harichandan as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh. Justice Nazeer was part of the Constitutional Bench that heard the Ayodhya land dispute land case and was also part of several other landmark judgments. He was part of the Triple Talaq case for which he even received threats and has been given Z-Plus security. He was also part of the demonetisation case.

Shivamogga Airport should be named after Kuvempu, says BSY

MARX TEJASWI @ Shivamogga

FORMER chief minister BS Yediyurappa, whose name the State Government had proposed to name the new Shivamogga airport, has said that naming the airport after national poet Kuppalli Venkatappa Puttappa, popularly known as Kuvempu, is appropriate and a resolution in this regard will be passed in the ongoing legislature session.

Yediyurappa told reporters here on Sunday that he will table the proposal in the session and once passed, the resolution will be sent to the Union Government. Yediyurappa said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the airport on February 27.

"Kuvempu was the greatest saint-poet of the country in the 20th century. Kuvempu was the first Kannada poet to receive the Jnanpith award. He received the title Rashtrakavi in 1964. A great patriot, he wrote our state anthem 'Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujate.' Hence, we have decided that it is appropriate to name Shivamogga airport after Kuvempu," Yediyurappa added.

"As Modi is visiting Shivamogga on February 27, we want him only to announce the decision to name the airport after Kuvempu. Modi is trying to spread the message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (the whole world is one single family). Kuvempu had been spreading the message of Vishvamanava (universal human) through his writings since the 1930s," he said.

Kuvempu, who was born on December 29, 1904, at Hirekodige in Chikkamagaluru district, spent his childhood at Kuppalli in Thirthahalli taluk of Shivamogga district. He had completed primary education in Thirthahalli while high school and higher education in Mysuru. His poem 'Negila Hidida Holadolu Haaduta' has been adopted as Raitha Geethe (farmers' anthem) in Karnataka. He died on November 11, 1994.

Sudhakar praises DKS; will he return to Cong?

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

IN what can cause embarrassment to the BJP in the state in an election year, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr K Sudhakar heaped praises on KPCC chief DK Shivakumar at the inauguration of a hospital funded by Infosys Foundation in Kanakapura.

The praise comes days after Sudhakar, a former Congress leader who switched to the BJP in 2019, praised another Congress leader and former deputy CM Dr G Parameshwar in Koratagere. "I have been closely watching DKS and his winning margin which has been increasing with every poll. He (DKS) has brought about a revolution in rural development. He had utilised the MNREGA works when there were no rigid rules in the past. I believe in a healthy democracy wherein the ruling dispensation should take the opposition's constructive criticism in a positive way", Sudhakar said.

Shivakumar said, "If I have shared the stage with any minister in Kanakapura, it is only with BS Yeddyurappa and Sudhakar. Sharing the stage with you (Sudhakar) means I respect you". Both the Vokkaliga leaders were seen sharing light moments on the dais.

AAP PROTEST

Police detain Aam Aadmi Party workers for protesting against the Union govt over the Adani-Hindenburg row, in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

POLITICAL THEATRE

NCP to fight polls in all 18 seats in Belagavi

BELAGAVI: The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) has decided to field its candidates in all 18 Assembly constituencies of Belagavi district, said party state unit general secretary Rambhau Jadhav on Sunday. "It has been decided to field maximum number of candidates in Kittur Karnataka and Kalayana Karnataka regions as per the directives of NCP supremo Sharad Pawar. The party has also decided to field candidates in the upcoming taluk and zilla panchayat, and Lok Sabha elections in Belagavi," he told reporters. He said efforts are being made to organise the party at the grassroots in North Karnataka. ENS

A youth reportedly died by suicide in Rajendranagar police station limits in Telangana after knowing that his girlfriend dumped him and married another man. M Praveen, a native of Chowdapur village in Vikarabad district, hanged himself from the ceiling fan at his house

PINARAYI LASHES OUT AT SHAH, MODI

Home Minister had mocked Kerala's safety and secularism while Modi took jibe at CPM-Cong poll arrangement

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kottayam

CHIEF Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Sunday lashed out at Union Home Minister Amit Shah for mocking at Kerala's safety and secularism, and challenged him to elaborate his criticism. He also replied to Prine Minister Narendra Modi's jibe at the CPM-Congress poll arrangement in Tripura.

"Shah wouldn't want to talk more about Kerala, leaving a message that something wrong is happening in the state. But people know what is happening in Kerala and Karnataka. In Kerala, people irrespective of their caste and belief can lead a free life. However, what is the situation in Karnataka? If Shah had meant to take Kerala as a model, then it is ok. But that was not his intention. What was the danger he could see in Kerala?" Pinarayi asked at a public function in Kottayam. "In Karnataka, minorities had to face attacks from Sangh Parivar in several places. However, there are no communal issues in Kerala. Shah said he had nothing more to say. Why did he stop halfway? Kerala is a place of secularism and maintains the law-and-order. BJP's atrocities won't work in Kerala," Pinarayi said.

Indicating that Kerala was not a safe place, Shah had said in Karnataka on Saturday, "There is an example of Kerala in your neighbourhood. I don't want to say more. Only the BJP under Modi's leadership can protect Karnataka."

Responding to the prime minister's "Kushti in Kerala, dosti in Tripura" remark, Pinarayi said CPM had come through several hardships in Tripura. "CPM had faced several attacks much before the ones that BJP has unleashed in Tripura now. The attacks faced by the Nripan Chakravarthy-led government in Tripura are part of the history." The Congress-led government had used the powers of the Centre to topple the government that came to power with people's mandate. The CPM has a history of successfully countering the attacks of the Congress, he said.

Pinarayi said Tripura became a land of atrocities by the BJP. "Ordinary life is not possible in Tripura in view of the attacks by the goonda gangs of BJP, who are being protected and supported by the government," he added.

ABVP members protest outside Utkal University campus in Bhubaneswar on Sunday | EXPRESS

JNU prof's statement raises heat at varsity seminar, 2 cases filed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bhubaneswar

A seminar on Indian Constitution at Utkal University snowballed into a controversy after activists from Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) protested statements by JNU professor Surajit Majumdar here on Sunday.

Prof Majumdar was delivering a presentation during a seminar on the theme "Challenges before Constitution and Democracy," organised by the Citizen's Forum, when the protest broke out at the PG Council Hall. The protestors said, the professor made anti-India statements.

Police said two activists of ABVP who were present at the seminar objected to some statements of the economics professor of JNU. The seminar had to be suspended due to the protests.

Manas Kumar Sahu, an ABVP member, claimed Prof Majumdar told the seminar that Indian Constitution has been in danger since 2014. He also alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken the Constitution into his own hands.

Majumdar, however, said there was nothing objectionable in his statements. "I was the first speaker of the seminar during which I spoke about different provisions in the Constitution related to the economy. There was nothing objectionable in the presentation," Majumdar said.

The ABVP members, however, said the JNU professor termed the National Education Policy as anti-student and even spoke against the cow hug day.

With tension prevailing over the protests, the organisers were forced to stop the proceedings midway. Sahid Nagar police reached the spot to control the situation.

Police said, there was no physical assault. Prof Majumdar, too, corroborated the same.

Later, the organisers and the protestors lodged separate complaints with police. The organisers alleged that protestors created disturbance during the programme while the latter accused the former of beating them up for objecting to the alleged objectionable statements made by the speaker.

In the evening, two groups of CPI(M) and ABVP protested in front of Utkal University and police intervened to disperse them. "Two cases have been registered in this connection and investigation is underway," said DCP Prateek Singh.

The ABVP, in a statement, said such anti-India activities will not be allowed on educational campuses of the state.

Iranian files rape case against Rakhi Sawant's hubby

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

AN Iranian woman has filed a police complaint accusing actor Rakhi Sawant's husband Adil Khan Durrani of raping her after promising to marry her.

In the complaint lodged at VV Puram police station here on Saturday, the 30-year-old woman stated that she had come to Mysuru to pursue a course in pharmacology five years ago. During a visit to a restaurant with a friend, she met the owner Durrani and they became friends and later lovers. The woman alleged that around five months back, when she asked him to marry her, he refused, and abused and assaulted her physically. He also threatened to upload her private photos on social media.

Police have registered a case under IPC sections 376 (rape), 417 (cheating), 420 (cheating and dishonesty), 504 (insult) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

ADRENALINE RUSH

A participant in action during a day-long bullock cart race organised at Siddalingapura village near the Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway in Mysuru on Sunday | UDAYASHANKAR S

Mystery shrouds death of 3 men from Davanagere

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Davanagere

MYSTERY shrouds the death of three persons from Davanagere near Anagogu village in a "hit-and-run" case on Saturday night.

Police have recovered an iron rod from the spot and have launched an investigation. They have also obtained a CCTV footage from near the accident spot.

It is said that there were six persons at the spot and they had a fight over some issue. Parashuram (24), Sandesh (23) and Shivakumar (26) from Ramanagar Extension of Davanagere city were found dead on the spot. One person has been taken into custody and investigation is on. A search is on for two others by Davanagere rural police.

Meanwhile, the bodies of the victims were handed over to their kin after conducting a postmortem at Chigateri district hospital on Sunday afternoon.

Parashuram, Sandesh and Shivakumar visited Katihalli village in Davanagere taluk on Saturday evening and attended Devi Jatra there. After the jatra, they had dinner and were returning home when the incident took place.

Shivakumar's sister said that she got a call stating that her brother died in a road accident around 2 am on Saturday and they rushed to the spot immediately.

KSRTC e-buses to 5 districts to miss Feb date?

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation's plan to operate electric buses on five routes in the state is unlikely to take off in February. Sources from the transport utility informed that the private operator is yet to deliver 49 buses. The first electric bus between Bengaluru and Mysuru is running successfully and is a hit among passengers. While there is demand for the same on other routes in the state, passengers may have to wait till March.

Prashanth M, who works at a private college in Mysuru, travelled in the e-bus from Mysuru to Bengaluru and was impressed. "There is absolutely no noise and the ride is completely smooth and not tiresome at all. It will be good if they increase the number of e-buses to Mysuru and to different parts of Karnataka as they are environment friendly," he said.

Sources from KSRTC said the infrastructure for e-buses, which include setting up charging stations, is going on and they are waiting for the delivery of buses from the private operator. "The response from the public to the e-buses is good. They are loving the experience as the trip is noiseless and smooth. We are expecting delivery of at least 25 buses this month-end or in March. Once the buses are delivered, they have to be registered, tested and put on trials which are expected to push back the launch," a source said and added, "We have finalised five routes for e-buses from Bengaluru. Buses will be operated to Madikeri, Virajpet, Chikkamagaluru, Davanagere and Shivamogga from Bengaluru once the buses are delivered". While charging stations are already in place in Bengaluru and Mysuru, works are going on to set them up in Madikeri, Virajpet, Davangere, Shivamogga and Chikkamagaluru bus stations. The e-bus is capable of running 300km on a single charge.

EXPRESS READ

2 cars gutted near Palace Grounds

Bengaluru: Two cars were gutted and another was partially damaged in an accidental fire at a parking lot near Palace Grounds, on Sunday afternoon.Officials of the Fire & Emergency Services Department said that the incident occurred at the parking lot attached to King's Court on Palace Grounds at around 2.15 pm. "A fire broke out at the parking lot where there was waste material and dry leaves and it spread to three cars. A Mahindra XUV and Maruti Ertiga were completely gutted while a Hyundai Creta was damaged about 25%," an official said. It is suspected that a thrown cigarette butt could be the reason for the mishap but the actual reason is yet to be ascertained. ENS

Youth killed in road accident

Bengaluru: A youth was killed in a road accident in Magadi Road traffic police station limits in the wee hours of Sunday. The deceased has been identified as SK Sanjay Kumar, a resident of Prakruthi Layout. The police said that the incident occurred at around 1.30am when Kumar was going on his bike from Magadi Road Metro Station towards Prasanna theatre. At Raghavendra Swamy Mutt, he lost control and fell from the bike sustaining grave head injuries. He was rushed to a hospital, where he was declared brought dead. ENS

ON THE LOOSE

Burglars loot ₹70L from 4 ATMs in TN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tiruvannamalai

IN a daring heist, a group of burglars, suspected to be from outside Tamil Nadu, cut open four ATMs located within a radius of 40km with gas-welding machines in Tiruvannamalai early on Sunday and decamped with Rs. 70 lakh cash.

According to sources, the first ATM theft was reported by beat police from near Mariamman Kovil around 2.00am followed by Theni Malai located about 500 metres from the first spot. Both the ATMs are located in Tiruvannamalai town. The third incident was reported in Kalasapakkam, located 25 km from Tiruvannamalai town on Vellore route, and fourth one in Polur, about 10 km from Kalasapakkam, around 4.00am.

While three ATMs belong to State Bank of India (SBI), one is an India One ATM. Inspector General of Police (IG) (North) N Kannan, Vellore DIG M S Muthusamy, Tiruvannamalai SP K Karthikeyan, Vellore SP S Rajesh Kannan and Tirupathur SP K Balla Krisshnan visited the crime spots.

Speaking to reporters, Kannan said, "The burglars used a gas-welding machine to cut open the ATMs. We could not say how many were involved, but they worked as a group. We have received some technical inputs based on which we are proceeding with the probe. We will nab them soon."

"The burglars looted the ATMs one after the other. The incident came to light when beat police patrolling the areas found the ATMs open. We also received alerts from banks about the loot," Tiruvannamalai SP Karthikeyan told TNIE. The burglars had used the same car bearing Andhra Pradesh registration number to escape from the crime scenes, sources said.

"The burglars are from other states and we will establish their identities soon," the IG said.

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD
(NATIONAL HYDROLOGY PROJECT) IW

e-TENDER NOTICE No. BBMB BOATS 2022-23 NHP-1

Following online tender is invited by the National Hydrology Project, Bhakra Beas Management Board, Chandigarh from the eligible bidders through National Competitive Bidding (2 Envelope):

Name of work:- Procurement of Boat and equipment for sediment surveys at Project location Nangal and Talwara.

Document Download /Sale Start Date of the Bid Document	10.02.2023 from 15:00 Hrs.
Date & time of Pre-bid meeting at below mentioned address	20.02.2023 from 11:00 Hrs.
Online Bid Submission Start Date	02.03.2023 upto 11:00 Hrs.
Online Bid Submission End Date	16.03.2023 upto 11:00 Hrs.
Online opening date & time of Technical part of the bid	17.03.2023 at 12:00 Hrs.

Detailed terms & conditions will be available at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in, www.bbmb.gov.in

Director/NHP, # 67 & 70 BBMB Colony SLDC Complex, Industrial Area Phase-1, Chandigarh. Email: dirhp2@bbmb.nic.in

27-PR-NHP-8 For your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಜವಳಿ ಮೂಲ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
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ಟ್ರೇಡ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್, ಬ್ಲಾಕ್ ನಂ.29/4, ನ್ಯೂ ನಂ.116/2, ಮೊದಲನೆ ಮಹಡಿ, ರೇಸ್‌ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560001. ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080-22266540/541,
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: kstidcl.bgl@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಟಿಐಡಿಸಿಎಲ್/ರ.ಬ.ಹೈ.ಪಾ./2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ:13-02-2023

ಇ-ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಜವಳಿ ಮೂಲ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಒಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯದ ಉದ್ದಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಜವಳಿ/ನೇಕಾರರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ನಿಗಮದ ವಶದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ರಬಕವಿ-ಬನಹಟ್ಟಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ.64/2 ರಲ್ಲಿ 2 ಎಕರೆ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದಲ್ಲಿರುವ 26 ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ಲೀಸ್ ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು "ಎಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಗಿದೆಯೋ ಹಾಗೆ" (As is where is basis) ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಜವಳಿ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘ/ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಹಾಗೂ ನೇಕಾರರಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ರೂ.50,000/- ಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ: (1) ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13.02.2023 ರಿಂದ 22.02.2023 ರವರೆಗೆ. (2) ಪ್ರಿ-ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.02.2023 ಸ್ಥಳ: ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಮಗ್ಗ ಸೇವಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ರಬಕವಿ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. (3) ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.02.2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆ. (4) ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರ ಇ-ಹರಾಜು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.02.2023.

ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ಜೊತೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಮಗ್ಗ ಸೇವಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ರಬಕವಿ-ಬನಹಟ್ಟಿ ಉಪ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಹಾಯಕರನ್ನು ಅಥವಾ ಪ್ರಾಂತೀಯ ಕಚೇರಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 91104 81159 ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080-22266540/541.

ಸಹಿ/-
ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

IF YOU ARE A 30+ YR OLD BACHELOR, THEN THIS PADAYATRA IS FOR YOU

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

WITH an aim to encourage bachelors to get married, a 'Brahmacharigala Nade Malai Mahadeshwarana Kadege' (March of bachelors towards Malai Mahadeshwara) is being organised for those who have crossed 30 years of age and are still unmarried. Around 250 bachelors are expected to take part in the 3-day padayatra being planned from Mandya to Male Mahadeshwara temple in Chamarajanagar. Most of the participants are from farming and business communities who are not getting brides for various reasons.

Shivaprabhu (34) from Kaagepura of Malavalli taluk, who is organising the padayatra, told The New Indian Express that the initiative is unique as the age limit for participants has been set. "Initially, we started with some friends who are not married even after crossing 30 years. We then posted our plan on social media which went viral, following which we got good response. As many as 150 people from Mandya, Mysuru, Ramanagara, Tumkuru and even Bengaluru have already registered. We are hoping to touch the figure of 250," he said. He, however, said if more than 250 people register, two batches will be made as they don't want to have a big crowd."

Shivaprabhu, who owns a private firm, said many bachelors who are not married even after crossing 30 years of age are a depressed lot. They become object of ridicule. "Through the padayatra, we want to tell them that there are many people like them, which will make them open up and feel better. Those who have registered with us are in the range of 30 to 45 years. These people are from various castes including Vokkaligas, Kurubas, SC/STs and Lingayats," he said.

The padayatra will be held from February 23 to February 25. On day one, they will cover 40 km, day two 45 km and the remaining the last day.

The organisers are also planning to conduct games and invite motivational speakers every night. Interestingly, the organisers are taking a team of cooks who are also not married and are above 30 years.

Government of India
Ministry of Minority Affairs
Haj Committee of India
हज कमेटी ऑफ इंडिया
(Statutory body constituted under the Act of Parliament No.35 of 2002)
Bait-ul-Hujjaj (Haj House) 7/A, M.R.A. Marg, Palton Road, Mumbai-400001.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR HAJ 1444 (H)-2023 (C.E.)

Haj-2023 will be organized under Haj Policy-2023.

The application for Haj-2023 is invited online by Haj Committee of India from 10th February, 2023. The last date for submission of Haj Application Form alongwith requisite documents is 10th March, 2023. Haj Application is to be filled online on the website of Haj Committee of India https://hajcommittee.gov.in or through "HCOI" Mobile App on Google Playstore.

(Mohd Yakoob Shekha)
Chief Executive Officer

aavin TAMILNADU MILK PRODUCERS' CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION LTD
AMBATTUR DAIRY, CHENNAI – 600 098.
Telephone No.23464528, 23464529, FAX – 044 – 23464536
TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are invited **through online** from the contractors for Milk Sachet checking, stacking of 4.20 Lakh litres of milk in ½ litre ,1 litre, 5 litre,225 ml sachets in Tubs and it's related work daily for 3 shifts by deploying 140 Nos of workers at Ambattur Dairy for a period of 24 months.

1.	Permitted Date & Time for online tender submission	13.02.2023 to 14.03.2023 upto 03.00 PM
2.	Pre-bid Meeting Date & Time	JMD's Office, Ambattur, Ch-98 22.02.2023 11.30 AM
3.	Last date and time of **online submission** of Filled Tender documents	14.03.2023 03.00 PM
4.	Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	14.03.2023 03.30 PM

The Tender documents can be submitted as e-tendering through the e-procurement website "http://www.tntenders.gov.in". Earnest Money Deposit at Rs.5,95,000/- (Rupees Five lakh ninety five thousand Only) to be remitted by means of online payment only. The tenderer can also check the **web site** http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in and http://www.aavinmilk.com for reference.
For further details see the tender documents.

DIPR / 916 / TENDER /2023 JOINT MANAGING DIRECTOR

EDITORIAL

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time

Thomas Alva Edison

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

CENSUS DELAY MAY AFFECT PROGRESS OF DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

The Centre's recent decisions have sent the already-delayed decadal Census 2021 into a deep freeze. The government issued a notification in March 2019 for conducting the census and issued another in July 2019 for updating the National Population Register and launching the first phase of the census, i.e., house listing and housing census. But, Covid stopped all the work.

Meanwhile, the Registrar General of India wrote to the states and Union Territories, extending the date for freezing the administrative boundaries up to June 30, 2023. This was the third extension. Before every census, the states and Union Territories need to inform the Registrar General about the changes in administrative units such as tehsils, talukas, police stations, villages, towns and districts. Only after freezing these administrative boundaries can the census begin. But the extensions douse all hopes of the exercise being launched in 2023. Little surprise, then, that Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai said in Parliament that due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, "the conduct of Census 2021, updating of National Population Register and the related field activities have been postponed until further orders."

Opposition parties have demanded that the exercise immediately begin, citing that Covid-19 is over and all is back to normal. It has been pointed out that house listing across the country will take at least a year. After preparing a list of households, the Registrar General begins population enumeration. The postponement of the preparatory work for Census 2021 leaves little doubt that the decadal enumeration will not happen before the 2024 general election.

The census data is critical for the right targeting of health and employment, besides studying poverty, consumption, spending and other patterns. In the absence of the 2021 census, the government has no definitive data about population migration during the pandemic. The Centre's current targeting of benefits is based on old data that does not give clarity on population change in terms of numbers and location. It must respect the sanctity of the census data, which is the only credible basis for implementing its welfare schemes and programmes.

THE RICH ARE VOTING WITH THEIR FEET

The government has woken up to the fact that individuals with wealth and resources are leaving India in large numbers, and it needs to act quickly. Its immediate response was to reduce the maximum surcharge rates on income tax from 37% to 25%, bringing down the peak income tax rate in the country from 43% to 39%. Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra, in a recent interview to *TNIE*, confirmed this. It is an admission of sorts by the government that there is now growing unease among its ranks about the problem. But high income tax rates are not the only reason why people with resources and wealth are leaving India. (Un)ease and high cost of doing business, lack of quality infrastructure and quality of life, and freedom from the fear of persecution by authorities are some of the major reasons why the Indian rich are shifting bases outside India.

Recently, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar told Parliament that 2.25 lakh Indians gave up their citizenship in 2022. In the past 10 years, 14.19 lakh have given up their Indian citizenship. They are moving to countries which score very high on the Freedom in the World Index. This index is maintained by Freedom House, a US government-backed organisation which ranks countries based on political freedom and civil liberties. According to various reports, the most preferred destinations are Portugal, US, Australia, Greece and Malta. All these countries score very high on the Freedom Index. Of course, countries with lower taxes and fewer regulations like UAE and Singapore also attract many wealthy Indians. The Economic Survey 2022–23 discusses the issue from the point of view of entrepreneurs, who tend to prefer countries like Singapore, UAE and the Netherlands to set up startups rather than India. It mentions the "lack of easy access to supportive infrastructure, or wading through the regulatory environment and tax structures" as reasons for entrepreneurs setting up companies outside India.

While the government has been acknowledging issues like compliance burdens, tax rates and lack of infrastructure, and has even acted on these fronts, nobody seems to address the elephant in the room—the issue of political freedom and civil liberties. This is usually an inconvenient truth for the political powers in the country to acknowledge. But if India aspires to be a successful economy and a vibrant democracy, it has to provide to its citizens 'peace' of living, apart from ease of doing business.

QUICK TAKE

TWITTER CAUSING THE BLUES

Twitter Blue, Twitter's paid subscription service, is now available in India. It is part of Elon Musk's mission to remove the "lords and peasants" system supposedly perpetuated by the blue verification tick. The cost: a monthly payment of ₹650 (on website) or ₹900 via the app, a steep charge in a notoriously price-sensitive market. Musk paid $44 billion for a company that industry experts believe was only worth a third. But it looks like Twitter Blue won't make as much as he needs it to. Musk's erratic management has not only destroyed a great deal of his personal wealth but continues to level a service, more so at the time of a natural disaster when it would have been most vital.

The conglomerate did well in returning investors' funds when their stock was being hammered

ADANI GROUP DOWN BUT FAR FROM OUT

MAKARAND R PARANJAPE
Professor of English at JNU

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

SOUMYADIP SINHA

On Wednesday, February 8, Prime Minister Narendra Modi responded in Parliament to Rahul Gandhi's speech on the previous day. The following day, in the Rajya Sabha, he was even more combative despite the heckling and the misbehaviour from the opposition benches. This, in addition to BJP MP Nishikant Dubey's detailed rebuttal of opposition allegations earlier, gave the nation a better perspective on the Adani issue. Finally, the Supreme Court's own approach, which emphasised better regulatory mechanisms for our markets, was also reassuring despite the continuing bloodletting on Adani shares.

I heard Modi's speech and, like most Indians, was impressed by his comprehensive counter to his adversaries. It was another masterly performance, which showed how much Modi has aced the parliamentary system of debate and rebuttal. Modi was a picture of composure, peppering his speech with sarcastic jibes, humour, and occasional verse quotations. As is his usual wont, he went far beyond defending himself and his party. Seeing an opening, he went on the offensive, using the occasion to his and his party's advantage. Modi's leadership is both commanding and credible. When it comes to political and parliamentary competence, there is no competition—even if there is an opposition—to Modi.

Now that the dust over the Hindenburg Adani hatchet job seems to be settling, at least for the time being, what are the lessons that may be learned? First of all, anyone glancing through the Report would hardly call it "research". It is a heap of allegations and accusations. The word "fraud" occurs 38 times in the report, but I was hard put to find a single verifiable proof with clearly documented indictments by any federal or law enforcement authority.

Hindenburg is a short seller, which means that it specialises in crashing the price of companies to make money. Being an interested, even motivated, party in the downfall of Adani Group hardly earns it credibility or trust. Instead, Hindenburg reveals itself as a merciless, if not mercenary, operative attacking selected targets for its own—and others'—profit. It is by no means an independent watchdog or disinterested party, whose aim is to protect shareholders and investors' money. At any rate, Adani came out with a 413-page rebuttal. It is for interested observers and investors to read both to make up their own minds on the matter.

Having said this, it would be imprudent not to admit that Adani stocks were grossly overvalued. Highly levered, with huge stockpiles of debt, and very high price-to-equity ratios, they were already inflated and unattractive to ordinary investors. The run up on several Adani company shares in the last year, which had made Gautam Adani the second richest person in the world for a while, was, to say the least, somewhat unusual, if not unnatural. The bubble was bound to burst. It only needed an opportunistic short seller like Hindenburg to hasten the correction.

But here is where Adani Group could have avoided the sort of fallout, if not humiliation, that it suffered. The market is a very tough territory to endure. Every big boy or girl knows that already. Not the least of all Gautam Adani, who has risen through the ranks the hard way. How is it that he and his advisors did not anticipate their extreme vulnerability? Why did they not have their nose to the grindstone and ear to the ground? Especially before a ₹20,000 crore FPO? What were their corporate minders and keepers, not to speak of informants, doing? Why weren't they warned well in time?

That is what surprises me. In fact, it is uncanny how in the final debate in a celebrated literature festival, those in favour of the proposition "The divide between the left and right can never be bridged" kept targeting Adani. Their argument was that no one could be so rich or rise so fast without some wrongdoing. The wrongdoing they laid at the door of the present ruling dispensation.

This debate was held on January 23, a day before the Hindenburg strike. How did so many seem to know that Adani was going to be targeted while the group itself went about as if it was business as usual? If information is power, the Adani group was certainly short-changed and tripped up.

There is also a larger lesson for our market regulators, such as SEBI, and our public sector banks, such as the State Bank of India, and large institutional investors, such as the Life Insurance Corporation of India. A well-regulated, transparent, and accountable market inspires trust, which in turn converts into billions of dollars of investment. Even a whiff of wrongdoing or scandal can damage not just a company's, but a nation's credibility.

As to the Adani group itself, they did well in returning investors' funds when their stock was being hammered. Several of their enterprises are solid and profitable; some have actually not only regained their pre-Hindenburg values, but done even better. The group as a whole is endeavouring to reduce and repay, even prepay, its debt.

Adani Group is still profitable, with an estimated EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation) of ₹50,000 crore in FY23, according to market veteran Madhu Kela. It has never defaulted on a loan nor on employees' salaries. Allegations of round tripping and underhand dealings, thus, can only tarnish its reputation and future prospects. In the end, the greatest companies in the world, or for that matter in India, are also those with the best corporate governance and financial transparency.

If Adani Group takes this trashing as a learning experience and improves both its books and its image, it is sure to regain its standing in the market both in India and overseas. It will, of course, have to take its present troubles in its stride, cutting its losses in some businesses and geographies, but gradually regaining its pole position in its core businesses such as infrastructure, energy, ports, minerals, cement, and so on.

As to India Inc., if the stock market is anything to go by, it has already recovered. India, too, as the world's fastest growing economy, is bound to brush off the Hindenburg hitjob, though it was timed to coincide with the budget and thus hurt India. A hard knock, once in a while, should only make us tougher and smarter. As to Modi and the present BJP government, they have already controlled the impact of the Adani fallout.

A word on Hindenburg itself. Having taken the name of a German mega airship that burst into flames over New Jersey before it could land, who knows, perhaps, instead of crashing other companies, it may itself auto combust one day just as its namesake did nearly 86 years back? According to the law of karma, what goes around comes around.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)

A DANCING GIRL AND THE *SANYASI*

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

There is an interesting parable attributed to Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902), which reportedly sprang from an incident in real life. The *swami* once went on a tour of the Himalayan foothills and Kashmir with a party of friends, which included his American disciple Sister Nivedita.

She kept a diary and noted that they stopped by the lake town of Nainital. They were invited to dinner by the Raja of Khetri, who greatly admired Vivekananda. The *swami* came to know that the *raja* had invited a dancing girl to perform for them. Being a monk, he disliked the plan but went along out of politeness. However, the dancing girl came to know of his objection and presented a deeply spiritual song. When he heard its unmistakably high-souled content, the *swami* was greatly struck and realised that one had to look beyond a person's appearance to their nature and character.

The parable that he apparently shared later, which I would like to retell here as a story, recalls that real-life encounter:

Not far from Mathura-Vrindavan on the banks of the Yamuna, was a little village whose chief claim to anything was that it lay not far from the king's highway. Pilgrim parties and wandering minstrels did not know of it but any number of travelling salesmen and traders would look forward to a detour there.

They always left some money behind in the village. Not only were sweets and snacks required but also betel leaf and the occasional services of the blacksmith, cobbler and tailor for repairs to their carts. The visitors went straight to the headman's house and after an exchange of courtesies, strolled out of his back gate towards the river. The path there spared them a public parade down the main street past respectable folk and innocent children at play.

They made their way to a small, neat house by the river, in which lived an attractive young lady who received them with a smile. No noisy, vulgar revels or brawls ever disturbed the peace because of the visitors. The sound of anklets on dancing feet could be heard every day from the little house.

The young lady lived very quietly otherwise and the villagers never troubled her. Every year on Janmashtami, she would visit the village temple and offer Sri Krishna *nritya seva* or worship through dance. She was a dancing girl, the daughter of a dancing girl who had been the daughter of a dancing girl, going back a hundred generations. But her father had been the village priest with no children by his wife who had died of a miscarriage. All his paternal feelings were invested in this daughter, the chance result of a youthful indiscretion in Mathura. When he fell gravely ill, he begged the village headman to let his daughter, whose mother was dead, live in the village and earn her living in the only way she could.

> The young lady lived very quietly and the villagers never troubled her. Every year on Janmashtami, she would visit the village temple and offer Sri Krishna *nritya seva* or worship through dance

"She is alone in the world and will be torn to pieces in the city, even if she works as a maid. She is a good girl and will only entertain a select clientele so that she has an income. Please let her live safely in your midst, it would give my soul peace," he besought with tears in his eyes.

The headman had put it to vote with the village men and though startled at first, they had no real objection. They were moved by the priest's agony and made their families understand that an orphan daughter of the village, though a dancing girl, deserved their protection.

And so, Punita, for that was her name, came to live in her father's village and became the best-kept secret on the king's highway. She was pretty without being outrageously beautiful, dressed modestly and spoke politely. The village accepted her presence well.

Only Nityanand, the *sanyasi* by the riverside, disliked Punita. He considered her a sinner because she was a single working woman. He kept a fretful note of her doings and spoke roughly to her every day. Used to living on free food, he had no appreciation for those who worked hard for survival. Nor did he consider that Punita sang and danced about the same god on whom he occasionally delivered a discourse at the temple. But when he threatened that he would complain to the authorities in Mathura, the headman called his bluff.

"Do that. And you need not come back," he said witheringly. "Punita belongs to this village. You don't. You just came along one day and decided to live on our charity. She had no choice in her profession. But she earns her living honestly and helps others earn, too. In the view of this village she is more 'normal' and better behaved than many so-called respectable people. Don't you recognise character when you see it?"

"You will burn in hell with her, sinners!" cried the *sanyasi* and stormed off.

Thirty harsh, unrelenting years passed this way. When Punita grew too old to dance, she lived thriftily on her savings, thinking more and more about God.

Punita and Nityanand died within days of each other and awaited their fate as *pretas* or bodiless souls. But two very different troops of beings seized them. A group of ghouls took hold of Nityanand while a band of angels held Punita's hand.

"Wait!" cried Nityanand. "Why am I, a holy man, being taken to hell while this sinner is going to heaven?"

The angels looked pityingly at him. Finally, an angel spoke.

"You may have been a *sanyasi* but you were unreasonably obsessed with sin. You spent all your time thinking hateful thoughts about this woman. We become what we think, *sanyasi*. Her soul is far cleaner than yours. That is why she goes with us to the light. But you, because you thought only of sin and always spoke cruel words, must join the sinners."

Nityanand had no answer to that and the heavenly band, casting him a compassionate look, vanished with Punita into the light.

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Clean up own mess

Apropos of *Rethink to recycle and reuse* (Feb 12). The writer aptly points out the responsibility of each individual in the country to find ways to recycle and reuse. Our negligence will increase the waste and make life hard for the next generation. Each and every individual should contribute by managing their own waste effectively.
Jayaraman CP, Chalakudi

Culling wild cats

Apropos of *Killing tigers is not a solution* (Feb 12). She rightly said it is the humans that have encroached upon animals' habitats over the years and used them for agricultural and residential purposes. Although the government harps on conserving forests and animals, it endorses the bizarre idea.
A Kasu, Nemmara

Gadgil's stance wrong

Nanditha Krishna has called out the Kerala government for its thoughtless decision to cull tigers to end the man-animal conflict. It is painful to learn that an environmentalist like Madhav Gadgil has been advocating the hunting of tigers. Call it killing or culling, it should not happen in God's own country. Truly a remarkable piece from a Devi awardee.
G Nataraja Perumal, email

Save tigers in Kerala

Humans killing animals has evolved through the ages for different reasons, such as hunting for food or as a pastime, and now, to stop their attacks on people. The government must allow animals to live in their habitat. It's high time to save tigers in Kerala.
Chaithra B, Bengaluru

Pothole-ridden roads

Taking a dig at Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, CM Stalin said he had to travel by train due to the poor condition of NH-4 between Chennai and Ranipet. He was lucky that he had an alternative mode of transport. What about the Chennaiites who have no option but to use the pothole-ridden roads?
P G Menon, Chennai

Well done, Team India

Apropos of *Spinners turn Aussies into dust in three days* (Feb 12). The Australian Cricket team, is, of late, struggling to assert itself, especially against India. In the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series, spinners R Ashwin (8 wickets) and Jadeja (7 wickets) bundled out the Aussies and emerged victorious. The Indian spinners seemed to wield a magic wand. Well done, Indian boys!
R Sampath, email

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia @JM_Scindia
Tribute to Mahadji Scindia on his death anniversary – who restored dignity of Mother India by defeating foreign powers and restoring Maratha Empire

Bhagwant Mann @BhagwantMann
First govt-farmer meeting held. We say first because No earlier govt has done this meeting before... No earlier govt went to the farmers

Bhupinder S Hooda @BhupinderShooda
In Kurukshetra, founder of Arya Samaj, great thinker and reformer Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati was paid tribute on the occasion of his birth anniversary

BJP govt biggest control freak sarkar: Congress

Over deletion, party says govt descending on authoritarian dominance in Parliament

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

CONTINUING with its tirade against the Modi government on the Hindenburg-Adani row, Congress on Sunday said that the government is moving towards establishing an authoritarian dominance in the Parliament by terrifying, terrorizing, tormenting, and tyrannizing the opposition.

Addressing the media, Congress MP and national spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi said that the deletion of Rahul Gandhi's remarks in the Lok Sabha and the excision of remarks of Mallikarjun Kharge LOP in Rajya Sabha shows the autocratic and dictatorial face of the ruling dispensation. Several remarks of Rahul Gandhi and Kharge have been expunged from the records last week by the presiding officers of the House.

Both the leaders have attacked the Central government on its alleged links with the Adani Group conglomerate.

"The BJP does not want the Parliament to run through consensus, collaboration, and concordance but through clash, chaos, and conflict," he said.

Calling the government the most control and command freak in the history of India, he said that the expunction is not justified by any reading of the relevant Rules.

"There is absolutely nothing which is remotely defamatory or indecent or unparliamentary or undignified in those addresses. Not a word stated therein justifies the use of the power of expunction. You can ask for the text if not already with you and see that there is no use of unparliamentary language, no expletives, no debasement of any institution, no objectionable or abusive word or phrase." He said.

Coming down heavily on the suspension of Congress MP Rajani Patil for video recording of the proceedings during the PM's speech, Singhvi said that the MP wasn't served any show cause notice prior to her suspension.

'With cut in funds, minorities will be pushed to sidelines'

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

WITH a drastic cut in the budgetary allocation of the Minority Affairs Ministry and the discontinuation of scholarships, civil society groups and Parliamentarians feel that the minorities will be further pushed to the sidelines by the move.

In the Union Budget of the current financial year, the Ministry of Minority Affairs' allocation had been slashed by 38 percent from the previous year. Advocacy groups point out that the curtailing of funds for prematric scholarships, education schemes and various skilling programmes was uncharitable as it will be a huge upset for the Muslim community.

While the allocation for prematric scholarships fell from ₹1,425 crore to ₹433 crore, funds for skill development schemes such as 'Nai Manzil, mostly targetting minority women, plummeted to ₹3.4 crore from the previous fiscal's ₹332.91 crore. While the funds for research schemes for minorities were halved to ₹20 crore from ₹41 crore, under 'Education scheme for Madrasas and minorities' saw a drastic cut from ₹160 crore to ₹10 crore this year.

On the one hand, the government is cracking down on child marriages, and on the other, it is doing away with beneficial schemes for minorities, says Hasina Khan of Bebaak Collective, an umbrella organisation of Muslim women's groups.

Uncharitable curtailing of funds

38% Union Ministry of Minority Affairs' allocation had been slashed by 38 per cent from the previous year

BUDGET CUTS IN:
- Allocation for pre-matric scholarships
- Funds for skill development schemes – mostly targetting minority women
- Funds for research schemes (includes MANF- fellowship for MPhil or PhD)
- Education scheme for Madrasas and minorities

Budget allocation	₹5,020.50 crore (2022-23) / ₹3,097 crore (2023-24)
Special programmes for minorities	₹53 crore (2022-23) / ₹26.10 crore (2023-24)
Funds for madrasas and minority education	₹160 crore (2022-2023) / ₹10 crore (2023-24)
Free coaching and allied schemes for minorities	₹79 crore (2022-23) / ₹30 crore (2023-24)
Schemes for the educational empowerment of minority communities	`2,515crore (2022-23) / `1,689 crore (2023-24)

"The government's move to discontinue Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) and other scholarships show its anti-minorities stand. Now the cut in budget allocation for minorities will deprive minorities, especially women of availing of higher education. If the government is serious about stopping child marriages, why are they scrapping education funds?" asked the functionary.

The government discontinued MANF – for minorities pursuing MPhil or PhD in December last year, saying that the scheme "overlaps with various other fellowship schemes for higher education being implemented by the government and minority students are already covered under such schemes".

Fellowships like MANF were implemented on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee report in 2006, says Rajya Sabha MP and IUML leader P V Abdul Wahab. Wahab moved a Private Member Bill in the ongoing Budget session of the Parliament to implement the recommendations of the Sachar Committee on the social, economic, and educational situation of Muslims in India.

POWER GAMES

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State Elections

TRIPURA MAY GET FIRST WOMAN CM IN NORTHEAST

All eyes are on Pratima Bhoumik, the 53-year-old Union minister of state for social justice and empowerment, who has been fielded in the Tripura assembly elections by the BJP. Pratima, a sitting member of the Lok Sabha, became the first minister from Tripura in the Union ministry. The state had remained unrepresented in the Union council of ministers until her induction. Sources said she has been fielded to give a message to the people of the state that she could be a candidate for the post of chief ministership. Pratima has risen from the ranks in the party and is very popular. She was considered close to former chief minister Biplab Deb. Her candidature is also an attempt by the central leadership to assuage the Biplab camp which has not taken his removal well. Though the present chief minister Manik Saha enjoys popularity in the state, there is no denying the fact that it is the Biplab-Pratima combination that continues to be the dominant force in the state BJP. The party leadership has played a deft hand by fielding Pratima as it brings the Biplab faction to the high-stakes table. The BJP is locked in a tough three-cornered fight in the state, but if it manages to pull through, Tripura may well have the first woman chief minister in the northeast.

Battle for Bengal

KLO CHIEF'S RETURN FUELS BUZZ ON STATE SPLIT

Kamtapur Liberation Organisation chief Jeevan Singh has crossed into India from Myanmar, where he has been living in camps close to the border. Jeevan Singh and his associates have waged an armed struggle since the mid-nineties for the formation of a separate Kamtapur state comprising six districts of West Bengal namely Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, Darjeeling, Uttar and Dakshin Dinajpur and Malda, and four of Assam viz Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Dhubri and Goalpara. Sources said that Jeevan Singh has crossed into India following an offer of talks by the Indian security establishment which is seeking long-term peace in the region by engaging all separatist groups. The central government's decision to engage with KLO has triggered speculations over the terms on which peace may be brokered with the armed insurgents. The KLO has repeatedly asserted that it would not settle for anything less than a separate state. What then is the way forward is the question that is being asked by experts watching the development.

Payment Crisis

TOP RUSSIAN OFFICIALS TO ARRIVE IN DELHI THIS WEEK

Russian President Vladimir Putin is sending his top finance and banking officials to find a solution for the long-pending payment problem. India and Russia have been trying to find ways to settle India's mounting dues which now run into billions of dollars. India imports crude oil and military spares and equipment, besides other goods from Russia. Due to the sanctions imposed by western countries on Russia following its attack on Ukraine, the usual channels of payment have been blocked. The two countries have explored many alternatives, but nothing seems to have worked. Among the options explored were settling the payments using Chinese and Emirati currencies, besides the Rupee-Rouble exchange route. Settlement of dues through rupee payment using Vostro accounts also did not work out. Russia has now suggested setting up a new financial authority based in New Delhi. Sources said the Russian side has already discussed the issue with the Reserve Bank of India and the delegation arriving in Delhi this week only has to work out the final details of such an authority.

Delhi-Dausa-Lalsot sector of the Delhi Mumbai Expressway, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday | PTI

Modi attacks Gehlot over budget speech goof-up

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday took a dig at Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, days after the veteran Congress leader read out portions from previous year's budget speech while presenting the budget for 2023-24.

"Mistakes can happen to anyone, but last year's budget was kept in the box. This shows the Congress has neither vision nor gravitas and its plans and announcements remained just on paper," the prime minister said in his speech after inaugurating the first-phase of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway in Dausa, Rajasthan. The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is a 1,350 km long expressway that will run across six states and will be India's longest expressway. Built at a cost of ₹12,150 crore, the 246-km first phase of the expressway will shorten travel time between Delhi and Jaipur to three hours from the current five. Modi touted it as the grand picture of the developed India that his government is trying to build and said it will boost tourism and bring new jobs for youths in Rajasthan.

Attacking the Congress party, the PM said it was afraid of making roads in border areas when it was in power in the state. "They were afraid that if we build a road near the border, the enemy will come walking over it. Congress has undermined the valour of our soldiers," the PM said. With about 10 months left for the Assembly elections, the PM said the state needs a double engine government to bring development.

Serving the poor is country's first 'yagya': PM at Dayanand Jayanti

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Sunday said that the service of the poor, backward and downtrodden people has become the first *'yagya'* for India in today's times.

Speaking after inaugurating the 200th *jayanti* celebration of renowned 19th century social reformer Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati in Delhi, the PM said, "Maharishi *ji* started a strong campaign against social ills like discrimination and untouchbility. And evils that were falsely attributed to religion were removed by Swamiji with the light of religion itself".

Quoting Mahatma Gandhi's remark on the Maharishi, Modi said that the latter's fight against exclusionary and exploitative social practices was the biggest contribution for equality in society. He said that 200th birth anniversary of the Maharishi in the *amrit-kaal* has come with a scared inspiration to the people of country.

The PM claimed that country is witnessing progress with non-discriminatory policies and efforts.

"Service of the poor, downtrodden and backward people is the first *yagya* for the country today," the PM said citing the country's progress.

He also cited a definition of Maharishi's definition of what a 'realised person' stands for. Quoting the Maharishi, the PM said, "A realised person is who gives more than he takes. India is leading the world in the quest of sustainable development". He also said that how Maharishi had replied to a British officer when he asked Maharishi to pray for the longevity of British rule. "Maharshi had said fearlessly to that British officer- 'Indepedence is my soul and the voice of India", the PM said.

He also claimed that India is running on tracks of 'virasat' (heritage) and 'vikas' (development) towards becoming again the 'Shrestha Bharat 'and 'Aatmnirbhar Bharat" with 'Saab ka sath' for 'Saab ka Vikas' through 'Saab ka prayas'.

PM Modi with youngsters at the inauguration of year-long celebrations to mark 200th birth anniversary of Dayanand Saraswati in Delhi on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI

Govt counters pro-Pak Khalistanis

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

WHILE the UK has recently warned India about the growing instances of "potentially toxic" pro-Khalistan extremism which is leading to mobilisation of funds and sympathisers to trigger disruptive and terror activities in India remotely, the Government has already deployed multi-pronged counter strategies in place to counter the menace.

According to sources in the ministry of home affairs, the pro-Khalistan extremists abroad backed by Pak, have been engaging and reaching forging alliances with criminals and gangsters. "An ecosystem of partnership based on mutual interest has developed between Khalistan extremist, criminals, and drug-traffickers," says an officer adding "It is quite a dangerous trend as though most of these local gangsters and petty criminals do not subscribe to the interest and radical ideology of Khalistan, they are being used to providing logistic support to the extremists including foot soldiers, arms-ammunition, shelter etc."

Major breakthrough in narco-trade

The major breakthrough happened with arrests four sharpshooters of Pak-backed Khalistani syndicates of Harvinder Singh alias Rinda and the Canada-based gangster turned terrorist Lakhbir Singh alias Landa in October 2022. "Probe revealed, that Rinda and Landa were supplying arms and weapons to three infamous groups

The officer said that though most of these local associates of the foreign-based pro-Khalistan operatives and handlers "are petty criminals who pull triggers and indulge in criminal activities just for money and they eventually end up becoming main perpetrators and conspirators of terror plots."

The local associates involved in narco-trade and even gangsters meanwhile have been a cause of serious concern says an officer. But the major breakthrough happened with the arrested four sharpshooters of the Pakistan-backed Khalistani syndicates of Harvinder Singh alias Rinda and the Canada-based gangster turned terrorist Lakhbir Singh alias Landa in October 2022 .

"Investigations revealed, that Rinda and Landa were supplying arms and weapons to three infamous groups -- Lawrence Bishnoi syndicate, its rival gang Davinder Bambiha syndicate and other local criminals of Punjab who largely work independently or within small networks, " an official of the counter terror unit said.

Sources said both Rinda and Landa were working with the objective to revive terrorism in Punjab, for which ISI is backing them with sophisticated weapons, ammunition and funding. Sources said that in fact ISI and Pak-based groups wanted a joint collaboration between Khalistani and Kashmiri terrorists (K2 Terrorists) as the common objective is to destabilise India.

New CJs for J&K, Tripura, two other HCs

SHRUTI KAKKAR @ New Delhi

THE Centre on Sunday notified the appointment of Justice Jaswant Singh as the new Chief Justice of Tripura High Court. Taking to Twitter, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju also confirmed the appointments of Justice N Kotiswar Singh as CJ of J&K & Ladakh HC (currently serving as acting CJ of Gauhati HC), Justice Sandeep Mehta as CJ of Gauhati HC and Justice Sonia G Gokani as CJ of Gujarat HC.

On January 25, the SC collegium in its meeting had recommended on reconsideration elevation of Justice Jaswant Singh, Judge, Orissa HC as Chief Justice of the Tripura HC. Justice Jaswant Singh is set to retire in ten days.

On September 28, SC collegium had recommended appointment of Justice Jaswant Singh as Chief Justice of the Orissa HC.

19K children live on India's streets, 882 fend for themselves: Govt data

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

AS MANY AS 882 children in India are living alone on the streets without any support, and the majority of them are in Uttar Pradesh, as per data from the Bal Swaraj portal, which enumerates children living on the streets in the country.

As per the data, 19,546 kids live on the streets – with or without parents, most of them in Maharashtra (5,153). It is followed by Gujarat (1,990), Delhi (1,853), Tamil Nadu (1,719), MP (1,491), Karnataka (1,220) and UP (1,038), said the Bal Swaraj portal, devised for children in need of care by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).

It said that out of the 19,546 street children, 10,401 are living with their families on the streets, while 8,263 are staying on the roads during the day and are back home at night with their families in nearby slums.

In UP (270), most children live alone on streets without any parental anchor or family support system, either on pavements or public places. It is followed by Tamil Nadu (124), Karnataka (105), Delhi (61), MP (45), and Maharashtra (39).

As per the NCPCR, these kids survive on the streets by working, begging, selling items/goods, performing on the streets and other means. They are forced to fend for themselves as they are either abandoned over disability, orphaned, or engaged in child labour.

No support system

It said that out of the **19,546** street children, **10,401** are living with their families on streets

8,263 children stay on streets during the day and are back home at night with their families in nearby slums

5,153 Children living on streets in Maharashtra

882 children living alone on streets without any support, majority of them in UP

Children mainly migrate to cities with their families to earn their livelihood

Maharashtra (1,266) and Delhi (1,203) - are two states that report maximum number of children out and about on streets during the day but back to their families at night

STREET RENAMED

A street square in Indore in Madhya Pradesh was named after a journalist who died at the same spot in an accident in February 2019. The Pipliyahana square was named after journalist Mahendra Bafna.

4 WORKERS HURT IN FIRE AT CHEMICAL UNIT IN THANE DISTRICT

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	31	13	Mumbai	35	23
Bhopal	28	12	Panaji	33	22
Jaipur	25	12	Patna	23	11
Amritsar	23	07	Lucknow	24	10
Chennai	31	23	Port Blair	32	22
Kolkata	30	16	Imphal	26	04
Srinagar	07	-3	Chandigarh	23	09

India's riches tied to UP, says Prez

At GIS-'23, Murmu says the state is a growth engine of 'New India'

NAMITA BAJPAI @ lucknow

LINKING the prosperity of the country directly with the prosperity of Uttar Pradesh, President Droupadi Murmu said by implementing far-sighted policies, the state today symbolized the growth engine of New India.

"If Uttar Pradesh is prosperous, India too will be prosperous," said the President while addressing entrepreneurs, investors, innovators, policymakers, ministers and officials at the closing ceremony of the UP Global Investors Summit-2023, in the state capital on Sunday.

Expressing confidence that the summit would yield meaningful results and help UP emerge as the best investment destination in the region with global recognition, the President said UP was not only the largest state of the country in terms of population, but also a state that contributes significantly to the country's economy.

Murmu said the prevailing political stability at the Centre and the state was crucial for sustained investment and industrial growth. She lauded the state government for framing pro-investment policies and ensuring their implementation.

President Droupadi Murmu being felicitated by UP CM Yogi Adityanath at the closing ceremony of UP Global Investors Summit on Sunday | PTI

If Uttar Pradesh is prosperous, India too will be prosperous. This investors' summit would surely make this state a key player in India's growth story

Droupadi Murmu, President of India

She also acknowledged the efforts made by farmers and industrialists of the state in giving a robust push to its economy. "This would surely make UP a key player in India's growth story," said the President claiming that the infra boost would not only help the citizens but would also make the investors comfortable in setting up their businesses.

The President said that it was heartening to note that the objectives of "sustainable and inclusive" growth, which were also the core highlights of the Union Budget 2023-24, were part of the UPGIS-2023.

Describing UP as the land of 'annapurna,' Murmu termed UP farmers as the "actual 'annadata' of the country. "I come from a farmer's family and understand the role of the agriculture in the economic growth of the country," she said.

Your investment safe, Yogi tells industry heads

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Lucknow

ASSURING investors, representatives of industrial heads, diplomats from abroad, of the safety of investment and interest in the state, Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath said the investment coming to the state would not only foster development but also benefit the investors.

While welcoming President Droupadi Murmu and expressing his gratitude to the investors at the closing ceremony of the three-day mega business event, the UP Global Investors Summit 2023, the CM said UP would be a safe destination for investment.

At the end of the summit, the CM said the final count of investment proposals stood at Rs 33.50 lakh crore with the signing of over 18,000 MoUs. "With this investment, 93 lakh jobs will be created," he said.

The highlight of this meeting, he said was that the investment came for all the 75 districts unlike earlier when most of the proposals used to be concentrated in NCR only.

We must present UP as a model to the world, says Rly Minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Lucknow

ASSERTING that UP's Global Investors Summit was being discussed globally, Union Railway and Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said that the 'double-engine' government was taking the state on the path of development at the speed of a bullet train.

Addressing the session on 'Uttar Pradesh in Modernization of Rail and Road,' Vaishnav said the UP model of development should be presented to the world. He said before 2014, when the rail budget was presented, around ₹1,000 crore was allocated to UP. In this Budget, UP's share increased by 16 times.

On the concluding day of the business meeting, MoUs of ₹17,507 crore were exchanged between the Railways and the state government for development of rail infrastructure and network in UP.

The Union Minister said 150 world-class stations were being made under the Amrit Bharat Mission in UP. "One station, one product scheme has been started for people working in art and craft. Due to this, the income of the people associated with this sector has increased. Also, these products have become global from local," he added.

He invited the investors to join the railways and set up their projects in Uttar Pradesh without hesitation in order to make their investment profitable and assured them of full help of his department.

'150 stations under construction in UP'

The Union Minister said 150 world-class stations were being made under the Amrit Bharat Mission in UP. "One station, one product scheme has been started for people working in art and craft. Due to this, the income of the people linked to this sector has increased. These products have become global," he added.

MUMBAI DIARY

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI
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Ajit Pawar shows his new side in media interaction

Leader of Opposition Ajit Pawar, alias Dada, who always keeps his distance from the media, has been more vocal and is enjoying his media interactions from the last few days. He is also giving more interviews to Marathi TV media. Earlier, the minister either refused to speak or got irritated when he was asked tricky or sensitive questions. However, now he talks like any seasoned politician, giving either funny or sarcastic replies that shows a new side to his personality . The change in Pawar demeanor is the talk of the town in political circles particularly.

Shinde dissapointed with empty-chair rally

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has tried hard to poach the Uddhav Thackeray led Shiv Sena leaders and workers and expand his party base. He, with the suggestions of Lok Sabha MP Shreekant Shinde and loyalist Kiran Pawaskar, announced a mega rally and his felicitations in Aditya Thackeray's constituency – Worli. However, the rally was a flop. Most chairs were left empty which did not sit well with the CM. He was furious with his son and Pawarskar for giving ideas for a rally that has damaged his reputation and hurt his confidence.

Minister obtains bar and wine shop licence

Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde factions minister Sandeep Bhumare has obtained nine beer bar and wine shops licence under his government over the last six months. This news has become the talk of the town. Even leader of Oppositions Ajit Pawar sarcastically commented in Paithan (constituency of Bhumare), stating, "Earlier, leaders constructed mega dam such as Jayakwadi, sugar factory, garden, MIDC and colleges, But what is the ruling party minister doing? Obtaining liquor licences? This is quite shocking." Pawar said if people elect the wrong leader, then they get people like Bhumare to run the government.

Bhim Army chief vows joint Dalit, SC/ST front in MP

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

LED by Bhim Army and Azad Samaj Party leader **Chandrashekhar Azad Ravan**, organisations representing Dalits, OBCs and tribals – which together account for nearly 70% of Madhya Pradesh's total population of around 8 crore —came together on Sunday for an impressive rally in Bhopal.

Enthused by the gathering, the Bhim Army chief announced fielding candidates under the collective banner of Dalit, tribal, OBC and minority community in the Assembly polls due later this year. Ravan said his strategy was aimed at offering an alternative to the ruling BJP and opposition Congress.

"We'll no longer believe anyone, and fight our battle collectively in the state polls. The BJP and Congress have always denied us our rights and opportunities," he said. Details about contesting the state polls would be worked out at a joint meeting of all the partners in the future, Ravan said.

"It's time we moved from the sadak (roads) to the sadan (legislature) to fight for our rights. We'll no longer allow 'rani ka beta' (queen's son) to become the raja (king). Those who have the decisive vote will be the ones to rule," said Bhim Army chief.

He took a swipe at Mayawati-led BSP whose strength in the MP Assembly declined to two seats in the 2018 polls compared to 4 seats in 2013. He read out the 31-point demands of the collective forum. These included holding the caste census, enacting a law for caste-based reservation, among others.

Nadda attacks Mamata, calls for TMC ouster

PRONAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

ADMITTING that the party's electoral plan for the high-octane 2021 Assembly polls in West Bengal did not work, BJP chief JP Nadda on Sunday asked the Bengal electorate to end 'jungle raj' during Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's tenure and bring the 'double-engine' government to power.

Though the Assembly polls are scheduled to be held after three years, Nadda's reamrk seems to be aimed at the upcoming rural polls and next year's Lok Sabha elections.

"Two years ago, we all tried to derail the Mamata Banerjee government to bring the double-engine government in Bengal. But it did not work. Next time you give a push and the TMC-led government will be derailed and the double-engine government will come to power," said Nadda while addressing rallies in Bengal and accusing the TMC of being corrupt.

Without naming Mamata Banerjee, Nadda slammed her party TMC on corruption issue under Central schemes, ranging from Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojona (PMAY) to free ration for the poor.

If you vote out BJP, jungle raj will return to Tripura: Shah tells voters

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Tura (Meghalaya)

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday sought to caution the Tripura voters saying that the communists, Congress and tribe-based TIPRA Motha would bring back "jungle raj" in the state if the people voted the BJP out.

"The elections will be fought between the double-engine and triple trouble. Chief Minister Manik Saha and Prime Minister Narendra Modi are taking Tripura forward but the communists, Congress and Motha are trying to take it to jungle raj. If you vote for them, the Communists will come to power again," Shah said at a rally in Charilam in West Tripura district. Attacking the Left, he said the communists accepted defeat even before the polls by aligning with the Congress.

"The communists killed hundreds of Congress workers but the Congress embraced the communists for power. TIPRA Motha cannot work for the welfare of Tripura's tribals. Similarly, the communists and the Congress cannot work for the welfare of the state. Only the BJP under the leadership of PM Modi can," Shah said.

The BJP is sharpening its attack on the Left-Congress ever since the two came together and struck a seat-sharing deal. As per their understanding, the Left will contest 47 seats and the Congress in 13 seats.

Shah said the BJP ensured all-round development in Tripura. "The people in Tripura have seen the misrule of the communists and corruption when the Congress was in power. Tripura had to endure violence. Then, there was poverty. In five years, the BJP government took Tripura to the path of development. Give us five more years, we will make Tripura a progressive state," said the Home Minister.

Alleging that the Left and the Congress regimes were marked by scams, he said the opposition parties were not able to cite a single case of corruption under the BJP government.

He promised that the BJP would make Tripura addiction-free. His other commitments included a two-wheeler for every college-going girl for free, a house to poor by 2025, hike in farmers' allowance from ₹ 6,000 to ₹8,000 and 1,600 sq ft of land to every tea worker.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah with Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha (left) during a 'Vijay Sankalp Rally' at Chandipur in Unakoti district on Sunday | PTI

U'khand govt to set up WB-aided broadcast system

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

KEEPING in mind the loss of life and property every year due to natural disasters in Uttarakhand in the last decade, the state government has planned to implement a broadcast system with the help of the World Bank. It will protect life and property in the disaster-hit state. The broadcast system will soon take shape to alert the common man to disaster in time.

Disaster Management Secretary Savin Bansal said, "Under this system, information such as floods and water level rise of rivers, lightning, possibility of excessive rainfall due to high density of clouds in the area will be available immediately to the residents of the concerned area through alert beeps and messages on their mobiles. Work is underway to develop this broadcast system."

Officials said that Uttarakhand has been struggling with natural disasters one after the other and people are not able to get information about it immediately. The forecast can minimize the loss, as it will alert citizens on time.

As Kataria made Assam Guv, will Raje be back in Raj mainstream politics?

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

GULAB Chand Kataria was appointed as Governor of Assam on Sunday. An eight-time MLA and a one-time MP, Kataria has also been the president of Rajasthan BJP in the past. An RSS-backed leader from south Rajasthan, Kataria said that he had no such expectation. Talking to the media, he claimed that two days ago, PM Narendra Modi had called him to inquire about his well being, but there was no discussion about the update. However, it is believed that signals were given to Kataria through the call.

BJP state president Satish Poonia, former chief minister Vasundhara Raje, BJP state incharge Arun Singh, deputy leader of opposition Rajendra Rathore and other leaders have all congratulated Kataria on being made governor.

This move is also seen as shift in giving the reins of the leadership to younger generation in the election year. However, now the discussion has intensified in political circles as to who will be the leader of the opposition in the state. As the assembly session is currently on, there is also a reply on the budget that has to be given. In such a situation, rumours say that the name of the Leader of the Opposition can be announced today or tomorrow.

The RSS backed Kataria was seen as a major alternative to the former CM Vasundhara Raje. Now political circles are buzzing whether this may lead to Raje's rehabilitation in mainstream politics of the state. Apart from Raje, many other leaders including Deputy Leader of Opposition Rajendra Rathore, former Assembly Speaker Kailash Meghwal are in the race of LOP.

Increase Twitter presence: Maha BJP to its leaders

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE Maharashtra BJP has asked its elected representatives, leaders and workers to be active on social media, and amplify the party voice by tweeting, retweeting prime minister, party national and state president and important leader's tweets.

The state party had held a two -day meeting of BJP leaders in Nasik where the Maharashtra deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis asked his party elected representatives and leaders should be very much active on social media particularly on twitter. "Oppositions have learned the trick of social media now, therefore the BJP leaders and workers if they want to be in BJP have to be active on social media to amplify the party views. This is a must and need of the hour," Fadnavisa said.

"We are going to monitor the social media accounts of all BJP elected representatives and leaders. And this will be one of the criteria while giving the party ticket. Followers and his influence on social media will also be checked," he said.

'Massive lithium reserves could be game changer for India, J&K'

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE discovery of Lithium reserves in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir would be a game changer for the country and for the Union Territory. It would lead to economic development for the people of J&K, officials said.

"The discovery of 5.9 million tonnes of Lithium reserves in Reasi district is the most important discovery in recent times. It means that we are second in the world after Chile. It is a game changer for the country and J&K," Secretary, Geology and Mining, Amit Sharma told this newspaper.

The reserves have been discovered by Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Salal-Haimana area of Reasi district. It is for the first time that the lithium reserves have been discovered in the country. At present, Chile has world's largest known lithium reserves at 9.2 million tonnes followed by Australia (5.7 million tonnes), Argentina (2.2 million tonnes), and China (1.5 million tonnes).

Sharma said with the discovery of lithium deposits, India has joined only a select group of countries having lithium reserves. "We have entered a global map of elite nations having lithium deposits". Lithium is a chemical element used in rechargeable batteries of mobile phones, laptops, digital cameras and electric vehicles, etc. It is also known by another name, "white gold".

"It will take us to self-sufficiency (aatam nirbar bharat), which is the dream of PM Narendra Modi," Sharma said. He said it will lead to economic development of J&K as the economy will get a big boost. "It will create employment opportunities for the youth and bring in a lot of exchequer".

Sharma said with India having a G-20 presidency, the discovery will add to the stature of the country. Experts said the cost of mobile phones and electric vehicles would come down once the extraction of the lithium starts.

On concerns that lithium extraction will damage the environment, the official said, "All the precautions and care will be taken during the extraction. The discovery has come about 26 years after the GSI submitted a detailed report about the presence of lithium in Reasi.

DISCOVERY OF WHITE GOLD

Known as white gold, Lithium is a chemical element used in rechargeable batteries of mobile phones, laptops, digital cameras and electric vehicles.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- These reserves are rare
- The discovery of **5.9 million** tonnes of Lithium reserves means that India is the second country in the world with Lithium deposits, after Chile that has **9.2 tonnes**
- It will be a major boost to the manufacture of rechargeable batteries for smartphones, laptops and electric cars
- It would reduce the need for imports and improve employment opportunities

ONE

transgender was killed and two injured after a gunman opened fired at them in Pak's Kohat district

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	6	-4	TDS	Los Angeles	18	10	LC
Colombo	28	24	LC	Melbourne	19	13	HR
Dhaka	27	14	TDS	Moscow	2	0	HR
Dubai	29	19	SNY	New York	14	4	LC
Houston	22	17	SNY	Singapore	29	24	TDS
Istanbul	8	1	LC	Toronto	7	0	LC
London	12	2	LC	Washington	14	3	LC

Turkey arrests contractors; UN says millions in Syria face aid crunch

ANTAKYA

TURKISH justice officials targeted more than 130 people allegedly involved in shoddy and illegal construction methods as rescuers extricated more survivors, including a pregnant woman and two small children while the toll rose to 33,179.

Turkish Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag said on Sunday that some 131 people were under investigation for their alleged responsibility in the construction of buildings that failed to withstand quakes. Among those facing scrutiny were two more persons who were arrested in Gaziantep on suspicion of having cut down columns to make extra room in a building that collapsed in the quakes, *Anadolu Agency* said. The justice ministry said three persons in all were under arrest pending trial, seven were detained and another seven were barred from leaving Turkey.

Authorities at Istanbul Airport on Sunday detained two contractors held responsible for the destruction of several buildings in Adiyaman, *DHA* reported. They were reportedly on their way to Georgia.

Volunteers distribute bread and other food supplies to those who lost their homes at a camp in Killi, Syria on Sunday | AP

Also, the UN denounced on Sunday a failure to get desperately needed aid to war-torn regions of Syria. A UN convoy with supplies for northwest Syria arrived via Turkey, but the agency's relief chief Martin Griffiths said much more was needed for millions whose homes were destroyed. "We have so far failed the people in northwest Syria. They rightly feel abandoned. Looking for international help that hasn't arrived," Griffiths said. Supplies have been slow to arrive in Syria, where years of conflict have ravaged the healthcare system. Meanwhile, miraculous tales of survival still emerged, though experts caution that hopes for finding people alive dim with each passing day. A seven-month-old baby was rescued on Sunday in Hatay more than 140 hours after the quake, while Esma Sultan, 13, was also saved in Gaziantep. A pregnant woman was also rescued on Sunday in Hatay. *Agencies*

GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS QUAKE-HIT AREAS

ANTAKYA

GREEK foreign minister Nikos Dendias visited the earthquake-stricken areas of Turkey on Sunday, accompanied by his Turkish counterpart, Mevlut Cavusoglu.

The visit was part of a new round of so-called "earthquake diplomacy" between the two uneasy allies, whose relations have often been frosty, if not downright hostile. "I would like to convey to the Turkish leadership and the Turkish people the warmest condolences of the Mitsotakis government and the entire Greek people for the losses after the two devastating earthquakes," Dendias said in Antakya, referring to Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis. "This is showing the solidarity of Greek people with Turkey and the Turkish population. Greece was one of the first countries to call and propose help to Turkey after the earthquake," Cavusoglu added. The Greek government has so far sent 80 tonnes of medical and first aid equipment and rescuers who with other European rescuers have saved 205 people, Dendias said. *Agencies*

Kyiv says Moscow facing trouble in launching attacks

KYIV

RUSSIAN forces over the weekend continued to shell Ukrainian cities amid a grinding push to seize more land in the east of the country, with Ukrainian officials saying that Moscow is having trouble launching its much-anticipated large-scale offensive there.

One person was killed and one more was wounded on Sunday morning by the shelling of Nikopol, Gov. Serhii Lysak said. The shelling damaged four residential buildings, a vocational school and a water treatment facility. In Kharkiv, one person was wounded after three Russian S-300 missiles hit infrastructure facilities overnight, regional Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said. The Russian military said they hit armoured vehicle assembly workshops at Malyshev machinery plant.

Ukrainian forces also downed five drones—four Shahed killer drones and one Orlan-10 reconnaissance drone—over Zaporizhzhia and Donetsk regions on Saturday evening, Kyiv's military reported.

Overall, Russian forces carried out 12 missile and 32 air strikes in Ukraine over the past 24 hours, as well as over 90 rounds of shelling from multiple rocket launchers. But Ukrainian officials say that Moscow is having trouble mounting such an offensive. "They are having big problems with a big offensive," Oleksiy Danilov, the secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, said.

"They have begun their offensive, they're just not saying they have, and our troops are repelling it very powerfully. The offensive that they planned is already gradually underway. But (it is) not the offensive they were counting on," Danilov said. Meanwhile, the leader of Russian paramilitary group Wagner said on Sunday that his troops had taken an eastern Ukrainian village a few kilometres from Bakhmut which Moscow has been trying to capture for months. "Today, Wagner's assault units took the town of Krasna Hora," Wagner's chief Yevgeny Prigozhin said.

However, *AFP* was unable to independently confirm the claims. *Agencies*

Chuppu set to become next prez of Bangladesh

DHAKA

MOHAMMAD Shahabuddin Chuppu, a former judge and freedom fighter, is set to become Bangladesh's next president after the ruling Awami League nominated him for the top post.

Chuppu, 74, will replace President Mohammad Abdul Hamid, whose tenure ends on April 24. "The Election Commission (EC) has received his (Chuppu's) nomination paper submitted by Bangladesh Awami League," a spokesman of EC said. He said the EC would now accomplish the procedural formalities for his election by Members of Parliament.

Shahabuddin Chuppu

The tenure of Hamid, the longest-serving president of the country, will end on April 23, and as per the Constitution, he cannot hold a third term.

Awami League chief and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina greeted Shahabuddin with a flower bouquet after the submission of his nomination.

EC officials and political analysts said Chuppu's installation as the 22nd president of Bangladesh was now a matter of mere formalities as the official Opposition in Parliament Jatiya Party decided against nominating anyone for the highest office. 'Everything is Allah's will,' Chuppu was quoted as saying by the *Dhaka Tribune* newspaper. "There is no reaction now. This is Almighty Allah's will," he said after submitting his nomination paper at the Election Commission. *PTI*

EXPRESS READ

US' ENEMIES IRAN AND CHINA TO DEEPEN TIES IN UPCOMING MEETING

BEIJING: IRANIAN President Ebrahim Raisi will meet with his counterpart Xi Jinping during his three-day trip in China starting on Tuesday, as the two US rivals seek further coop-eration. Raisi will meet with Xi and their dele-gations will sign cooperation documents, according to Iran's state news agency IRNA. Meeting with Iranian and Chinese business leaders and Iranian expatriates in China is also part of his itinerary, the report added. Raisi's visit is expected to deepen ties between the two political and economic partners that are opposed to the US-led Western domination of international affairs.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, Sri.D.Hemashekar is sole owner of property bearing Flat bearing No. 404 in the fourth floor in building known as BM MYSTIC GREENS for constructed on in Sy No 27, BBMP Katha No. 1759, having a super built up area of 1558 sq ft along with undivided share of 368 sq ft, by way of documents i.e., 1) registered sale deed dated 19.03.2014 Document No.10618/2013-14, 2) Registered MOTD dated: 01.10.2014 Document No. 04789/2014-15, 3) Registered MOTD dated: 09.12.2019, Document No.04103/2019-20, 4) NOC dated: 20.11.2019, 5) Katha certificate and extract dated: 05.11.2019, 6) Property Tax Assessment list extract dated: 05.11.2019, 7) Property Tax paid receipt dated: 22.11.2019 and 8) Encumbrance certificate dated: 08.11.2019 and 28.11.2019 and the same being deposited with M/s. DCB Bank Ltd., Rajajiangara Branch, Bangalore-10, were misplaced at office premises, while storing the documents for the safe custody. A Complaint is lodged in Crime Branch Bangalore City Police on dated 10.02.2023 With reference to the above, the general public are hereby called upon and informed that if anybody finds these documents may return these documents to the above police station or at the below mentioned address and also anyone is having any rights, claims, interest on the above property, may approach the undersigned within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise claims or objections received after this period will not bind on any of the parties above and the same is null and invalid.

Mr. S. Lakshminarayana. BA LLB
Advocates and Legal Consultants, No.365, First Floor, 57th C Cross, Near Bhashyam Circle, Rajajinagar 3rd Block, Bangalore-10.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring it to the notice of general Public that my clients (1)Mrs. Tara Vendantan, (2) Dr.Mrs.Sudha Mahadevan and (3) Mrs. Sree Sundaram all daughters of late Mr.L.S.Sripathy, all residing at No. 12/A, Rathna Vilasa Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore are absolute owners and in possession of the Property No. 10/12, now it comes within BBMP Limits bearing Old Municipal No.5, Present No. 12/A, PID No.59- 25-5, BBMP Yediyur Ward No.167, Rathnavilasa Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore and measuring East to West 40 feet on the Southern side and 148 feet on the Northern side and North to South 136 feet on the Eastern Side and 148 feet on the Western side and bounded on the **East by** Property of Adavappa, **West by** Property of Dr.D.S.Ramachandra Rao, **North by** Rathna Vilasa Road and **South by** Property of Nagesharayan.
The Original Sale Deed dated. 16.3.1960 executed by Adevappa in favour of L.S.Sripathy relating to the above Property registered as document No.5010 of 1959-60 in Book I Volume, No. 156 pages 161 to 163 in the Office of the Sub Registrar Bangalore City South is misplaced and not found.
If any public traces the same the same may be hand over to the below mentioned Advocate. Further if any person having custody and tries to misuse the said document, the same shall not be binding on the said property and my clients.
Hence this notice
B. S.RANGANATHA, Advocate
#54/3, Sri Krishnarajendra Road
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004.
Mobile: 9986378421 Phone: 266 78421
Bangalore, Date: 11.2.2023

Your Guide to Spicy living
INDULGE
Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

UCO BANK (A Govt. of India Undertaking)
BRANCH : CANTONMENT (0151)
No.83, MG Road, Bangalore-560001

CORRIGENDUM E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

This is with reference to the E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE published in this newspaper on **12.02.2023** for the **A/c. Mr.Mohammed Ayub Hussain and Mrs.Shaheen Taj,** for the Sale of properties through e-auction.

In this Notice the Reserve Price of **Rs.1,33,89,924/-** and the EMD amount of **Rs.13,38,992.4/-** of Property No.2 in name of **Mr.Mohammed Ayub Hussain** was published erroneously. So, please read the REVISED corrections below:

a) Reserve Price: Rs.1,33,91,000/-	b) EMD Amount: Rs.13,39,100/-

All the other details, terms and conditions remain same as published in Newspaper on **12.02.2023 in The Indian Express and Kannada Prabha.**

Date: 12.02.2023
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer, UCO Bank

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया **Union Bank of India**
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Government of India Undertaking
आन्ध्रा Andhra कार्पोरेशन Corporation

STRESSED ASSETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH : 104, Ground Floor, Bharat House, Mumbai Samachar Marg, Fort, Mumbai-400 023, Maharashtra. **•E-mail :** samvmumbai@unionbankofindia.bank

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE / MOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable / Movable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

NOTICE of **15 days** is hereby given to the **public in general** and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the **constructive / POSSESSION** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Union Bank of India** (Secured creditor), will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is"** and **"Whatever there is"** on the dated mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to **Union Bank of India** from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder :-

• DATE &TIME OF E-AUCTION FOR PROPERTY : 28.02.2023 at 11.00 a. m. to 01.00 p. m. •

Name of the Borrower, Co-Applicant & Guarantor/s	Amount due
:- 1. M/s. Bellona Estate Developers Ltd. 2. M/s. Patel Engineering Ltd.	: ₹ 288,66,59,070.76 for the consortium as under - 1) Union Bank of India, Dt. of Demand Notice : 23.07.2021, Amount of Demand Notice :- ₹ 107,94,61,882/-; 2) Canara Bank (e-Syndicate Bank), Dt. of Demand Notice : 26.07.2019, Amount of Demand Notice :- ₹ 136,10,39,788.99; 3) Bank of Baroda, Dt. of Demand Notice : 30.11.2021, Amount of Demand Notice :- ₹ 44,61,57,399.77. TOTAL AMT. : ₹ 288,66,59,070.76 & further Int. & other expenses after the Dt. of 13(2) of the each Bank.

Property No. 1 :- Neo Mall **Admeasuring** 12.375 acres situated at Neo Mall, Neo Town Survey Nos. 45, 46, 47, 48 Maragondanahlli Village, Survey No. 274 Hulimangala Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluka, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
• Reserve Price : ₹ 202.50 Crs. **• Earnest money to be deposited :** ₹ 20.25 Crs. **• Date of demand notice :** 23.07.2021, 26.07.2019 & 30.11.2021 **• Date of possession notice :** 03.03.2022 **(Under Symbolic Possession)**

For detailed terms and condition of the sale, Please refer to the link provided i. e. https://www.ibapi.in OR www.mstcecommerce.com OR www.unionbankofindia.co.in

DATE OF INSPECTION OF ALL THE PROPERTY ON 25TH FEBRUARY 2023 (With Prior Appointment)

For Registration & Login and Bidding Rules visit https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp

For Further Details Contact : Mr. Sidhartha Mhade, Authorised Officer, **Mob. No. 8980518779 & Mr. Vikas Srivastava,** Authorised Officer, **Mob. No. 9935387181 (During office Hours)**

sd/-
Date : 13.02.2023
Place: Bengaluru, Karnataka
Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. 21-S&T/MYS/2022
Dated: 07-02-2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tender for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Diversion/Shifting of S&T Assets & Cables at Mysuru yard in connection yard remodeling work.	Rs. 2,34,72,600/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 02-03-2023**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom. Engineer
PUB/666/AAD/PRB/SWR/2022-23 Mysuru
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PAPER PUBLICATION

IN THE COURT OF HONOURABLE V ADDITIONAL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AT MYSURU

O.S. NO. 802/2021

BETWEEN

Plaintiff: Smt. Kantha @ Lakshmi Kantha and others
V/s
Defendants:
Smt. Rajamani Venugopal and others

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS NO.2(b) and 2(c).

2(b). Smt. Sabitha Raju, D/o.Late. Sri.V.L.Raju, Age about 68 years, Residing at, #916, 2nd Cross, 2nd Stage, Kirloskar Colony, West of chord Road, Bangalore-560079

2(c). Smt. Prabha Raju, D/o. Late. Sri.V.L.Raju, Age about 66 years, C/o. Sri. Ramachandraiah, # 431, 25th Cross, Banashankari, 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560050

Whereas the Plaintiffs herein have filed suit for Partition in respect of suit schedule immovable and movable properties against the Defendants including you. In the said suit you are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person or by a pleader on 28th February 2023 at 11 A.M, to answer the same, failing which, the above case will be disposed of ex-parte against you.

Given under my hand and seal on this 28th day of February 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
CHIEF MINISTERIAL OFFICER
COURT OF SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AND CJM, MYSURU

S.K.Manjunath,
Advocate for the Plaintiff,
CH-52, 5th Cross, 7th Main, Saraswathipuram, Mysore-570009

KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
49, Parisara Bhavana, 1st to 5th Floor, Church Street, Bengaluru - 560 001, Karnataka, INDIA.
Ph: 080-2558 6520 / 2558 9112, Fax: 080-2558 6321
Email: ho@kspcb.gov.in Website: www.kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

NO.PCB/209/SEO/MINES/EPH/2022-23/7555 **Date: 10-02-2023**

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION

Sri Manjunath Shanth kumar Surpur, have proposed to undertake Pink Granite Quarry of capacity maximum 18,494 TPA on a total land area of 13.39 Acres at Sy. No.108/1/1 of Kyadiguppa Village, Kustagi Taluk, Koppal District.

As Per Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated:14.09.2006 and Amendment dated:01.12.2009 the project is required to go through Environmental Public Hearing process to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority. As per the Terms of Reference letter (ToR) SEIAA 141MIN 2021 dated:19.08.2021issued by SEIAA, Karnataka and request letter of the project proponent dated:16.12.2022 and Regional Officer, Koppalletter dated:13.01.2023 intimating the date, the Environmental Public Hearing is being conducted by KSPCB.

The details of the project are as follows:

1. Name of the Company & Address: Sri. Manjunath Shanth kumar Surpur, Ward No. 5, Near Old Govt. Hospital, Ilkal, Bagalkot District, Karnataka - 587125

2. Location of the Proposed Project : Sy. No. 108/1/1,Kyadiguppa Village, Kushtagi Taluk, Koppal District, Karnataka.

3. Details of proposed project : Proposed to undertake Pink Granite Quarry of capacity maximum 18,494 TPA.

4. Date, time and venue of Environmental Public Hearing : Date: 14.03.2023 (Tuesday), Time: 12.30 PM, Place: Proposed project area, Sy No. 108/1/1, Kyadiguppa Village, Dhotihalla Grama Panchayat, Kushtagi Taluk, Koppal District.

5. Places of availability of project documents as per EIA Notification, which is kept open to public are : (a) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Koppal District, Koppal. (b) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Koppal District, Koppal. (c) District Industries Centre, Koppal District, Koppal. (d) Tahsildar Office,Koppal District, Koppal. (e) Gram Panchayath Office,Dhotihalla. (f) Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Koppal. (g) SEIAA, Karnataka, Room No. 706, 7th Floor, 4th Gate, MS Building, Bengaluru – 560 001. (h) HELP DESK, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No.49, ParisaraBhavan, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001.

NOTE: Suggestions, views, comments and objections of interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project are invited within30 days from the date of publication of this Notification to make oral/written/E-Mail suggestions to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/ Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee (Deputy Commissioner, Koppal District, Koppal). Interested public can participate in the Public Hearing at the above place. For details please visit our **Website: kspcb.gov.in**

Sd/-
MEMBER SECRETARY

AVOID USE OF SINGLE USE PLASTICS, BE ECO-FRIENDLY

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd

Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400 069, Maharashtra.
KR Puram Branch : Office No. 1218, 2nd Floor, Pooja Complex, Old Madras Road, K R Puram, Bangalore-560036,(KA).
Malleshwaram Branch : NO 16/12 , Nagarathna Nilaya , 1st Floor 1St A Cross , 2nd Main , 150 Feet Ring Road, Nandhini Layout 2nd Block, Opposite to RajKumar Smarak / Nr Kanteerva studio, Bangalore :- 560096.

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.(AHFL) under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s)to pay to AHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to AHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Sl No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower / Guarantor (s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property
1.	(Loan Code : 21400001125 KR Puram Branch) Somashekar C V (Borrower) Pushpa K (Co Borrower)	11-02-2023 ₹ 13,08,811.00	50 3 50 4 50 5 Assessment No 50 3 50 4 50 5 Old Kath a No 50 Site No 13 Alutu Village And P anchayath , Bengaluru - 562123, Karnataka.
2.	(Loan Code : 18900005011 Malleshwaram Branch) Hanumakka K (Borrower) Narasimhamurthy N (Co Borrower)	11-02-2023 ₹ 9,89,764.00	10 10 Site No 10 1 And 10 Katha No 10 10 Shy anaboganahalli Village Hesaraghatta Hobli Arakere, Bengaluru - 561203, Karnataka.
3.	(Loan Code : 18900005021 Malleshwaram Branch) Mangala Venkatesh N (Borrower) Mangala Chandrika (Co Borrower)	11-02-2023 ₹ 11,05,133.00	51 Site No 92 Old No 53 Asst No 51 V P K atha No 402 1 Doddabettahalli Vill Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru - 560097, Karnataka.
4.	(Loan Code : 18900005225 Malleshwaram Branch) Sharadha T K (Borrower) Srinivasamuthy G Y (Co Borrower)	11-02-2023 ₹ 17,17,039.00	302 45 4 1 Katha No 302 45 4 1 Gollahalli Village Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru - 562123, Karnataka.

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to AHFL as aforesaid, AHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of AHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Place : KR Puram and Malleshwaram
Date : 13.02.2023
Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd

Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400069, Maharashtra.
Zonal Office :- No.3, JVT Towers, 1st and 2nd Floor, 8th A Main Road, S R Nagar, Bangalore - 560027, (KA).
Malleshwaram Branch : NO 16/12 , Nagarathna Nilaya , 1St Floor 1St A Cross , 2nd Main , 150 Feet Ring Road, Nandhini Layout 2nd Block, Opposite to RajKumar Smarak / Nr Kanteerva studio, Bangalore :- 560096. A.O : **Mohan Kumar G**, Mob : **9742821808.**

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited under the **Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002** for the recovery of amount due from borrower/s, offers are invited by the undersigned in sealed covers for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on **'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'**, Particulars of which are given below:-

Sl No.	Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)
1.	APPL_NO. : 00382884 Malleshwaram Branch) Vinayak K Patil (Borrower) Anitha Vinayak Patil (Co Borrower)	15-11-2021 ₹8,34,388.00	Site No. 11, Old Assessment No.14/2A2, Present Assessment No.14/3, Siddanahosahalli Village, Dasanapura Hobali, Bangalore North Taluka, Bengaluru - 562123, Karnataka. Bounded on **East by :** Road, **West by :** Property of others, **North by :** Site No.10 and **South by :** Site No.12.	₹ 10,00,000.00 (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only)	₹ 1,00,000.00 (Rupees One Lakh Only)

1. **Last Date of Submission of Sealed Bid/ Offer** in the prescribed tender forms along with EMD and KYC is **14-03-2023** within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above. Tenders that are not filled up or tenders received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
2. **Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer (Auction Date)** for Property is **15-03-2023** at the above mentioned branch office address at 3:00 PM. The tender will be opened in the presence of the Authorised Officer.
3. The notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s, to remain present personally at the time of sale and they can bring the intending buyers/purchasers for purchasing the immovable property as described herein above, as per the particulars of Terms and Conditions of Sale.
4. **30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002 is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the above described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physcial possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and to pay the amount due to Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd., in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped.**
5. The immovable property will be sold to the highest tenderer. However, the Authorised Officer reserves the absolute discretion to allow inter se bidding, if deemed necessary. The Property as mentioned will not be sold below Reserve Price.
6. **AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'.**
7. The Demand Draft Should be made in favor of '**Aadhar Housing Finance Limited' Only.**
8. The detail terms and conditions of the auction sale are incorporated in the prescribed tender form. Tender forms are available at the above mentioned Branch office. Authorised officer reserve the rights to extend the date of tender or change the terms & conditions of bidding. For further details & other terms & conditions of bidding please visit our branch and website : **www.aadharhousing.com**
For further details, contact the Authorised Officer, at the above mentioned Office address.

Place : Malleshwaram
Date : 13.02.2023
Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

WESTERN RAILWAY

CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS WORKS AT JHABUA STATION

Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction)I, Western Railway, RATLAM (MP) invites offer through E-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in** under Two packet system for the following tender: **Tender No.: RTM/DINL/Dy.CE(C)/112. Name of work : Construction of various structures viz station buildings, covering sheds, platforms, FOB, passenger amenities, construction of service buildings / S&T structures, offices, staff quarters & other misc. works at Jhabua station (proposed) in connection with new BG line project between Dahod-Indore of Ratlam Division - Western Railway. NIT Cost (₹): 485843928.66. Bid Security ₹: 2579300. Bid submission closing date : 16.03.2023 At 15.00 Hrs. Bid opening date : 16.03.2023 At 15.30 Hrs. Instructions to tenderers** : Only E-offers submitted online through E-tender portal will be considered. Please note that printed offers will not be entertained. The date of tender, terms & conditions and scope of work are uploaded and are available only in electronic format in our website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

65% profit growth to ₹29,175 crore have been logged by Public sector banks during the third quarter ended December 2022

How to keep EMIs lower as banks hike interest rates

Experts suggest that if you have a surplus amount, make part prepayment of your home loan as it will save you a lot of money in the long run

SACHIN KUMAR @Mumbai

WITH the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raising the repo rate by 25bps, the banks are set to raise interest rates for different loans for existing and new borrowers. For existing home loan borrowers, it means higher Equated Monthly Instalments (EMIs). However, it is possible to keep your home loan EMI at the same level even when the banks raise interest rates.

Last week, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced to raise the repo rate, the rate at which the RBI lends money to commercial banks, to 6.50% from 6.25% in its fight to tame inflation.

The latest hike, the sixth such hike since May 2022, in the repo rate will make home loan EMIs expensive by around 2-4%. The increase in EMIs for existing home loan borrowers will be higher if we consider repo rate hikes by the RBI since May last year. The central bank has increased the repo rate by 250 bps in the past nine months.

Experts suggest some ways which will help you to keep monthly instalments at the same level.

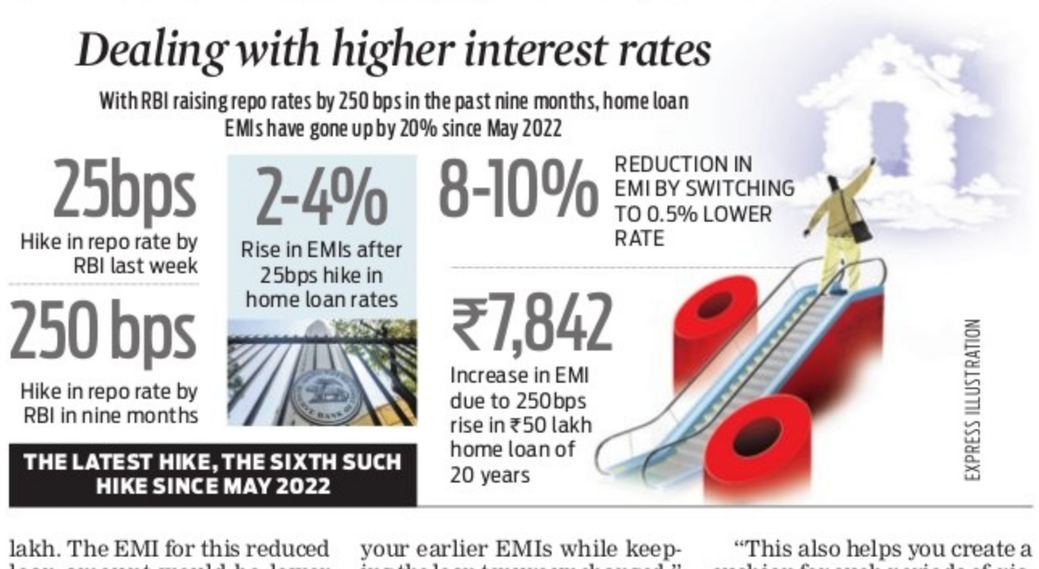
Make prepayments

Making prepayments on your home loan is a great way to reduce the outstanding loan amount, which will in turn reduce your EMI. If you have a surplus amount, it is advisable to make prepayments as it will save you a lot of money in the long run.

"If you have surplus funds, consider partially prepaying your loan, which will reduce your EMI and keep your loan tenure unchanged," Raj Khosla Founder and MD - MyMoneyMantra.com told TNIE.

If someone has taken a home loan of ₹50 lakh at an interest rate of 7% for 20 years, the EMI comes out to be ₹38,765. If the borrower makes a part-prepayment of ₹10 lakh, the remaining loan amount would be ₹40 lakh. The EMI for this reduced loan amount would be lower than your previous EMI.

"Assuming your previous EMI was ₹38,765, with the part-prepayment of ₹10 lakh, the new EMI would be approximately ₹35,989, which is lower than the previous EMI and helps you maintain parity with your earlier EMIs while keeping the loan tenure unchanged," explained Khosla. Regularly paying a small amount over and above your monthly EMI helps you pay back your principal thereby reducing your effective loan tenure, says Gaurav Mohta, CMO, HomeFirst Finance.



"This also helps you create a cushion for such periods of rising interest rates by keeping your monthly outlay similar against a higher EMI, thereby matching your now revised loan tenure with the loan agreement. Prepayment this way, not only saves you the interest you would have paid on the total prepaid amount, but it also saves you the stress of rate revisions during this time," he said.

Switch to loan with lower rate

When banks raise rates, scan the websites to find the bank with comparatively lower interest on home loans. Fierce competition has compelled banks to offer lower loans at lower rates to lure customers. Even a slightly lower interest will make a significant impact on your total outgo towards the total loan payment.

"The best way to keep EMIs at the same or lower them is to switch to a loan with a lower rate of interest. Here, it is important to note that even a slight decrease in the interest rate can result in a notable lowering of EMIs. For instance, switching your loan to an interest rate that is 0.5% lower than the existing one can lower your EMI by as much as 8-10%," Atul Monga, Founder and CEO of Basic Home Loan told this newspaper.

Opt for a longer loan tenure

By extending the loan tenure, you can spread the amount you need to pay over a longer period, which will result in a lower EMI. However, this means you will end up paying more interest in the long run. "Extending your loan tenure can reduce the EMI amount considerably as the tenure is directly proportional to EMI. This can be a viable option for someone who is looking to reduce their EMIs. Whatever option you choose to pursue, it is important to weigh the pros and cons carefully before making any decision," added Monga.

Negotiate with your lender

You can also negotiate with your lender and request them to offer you a lower interest rate. Lenders are often open to negotiations, especially if you have a good credit history and are a loyal customer.

MONEY MATTERS

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT JOINT FINANCES

FINANCIAL ADVICE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

IT is the season for love. The weather is just right to make those right moves. Before you ride on your imagination, let us be clear about the moves in this conversation. They are about managing your money together with your loved one. This column advocated for a money date you should take with your spouse at least once a month. The idea is to keep yourself informed about money-related affairs. The two of you must be on the same page about all aspects of money management. These include professional advice, asset allocation, will planning and execution, and big and small financial goals.

A healthy relationship about money does not mean you must have joint accounts for everything. You can keep your finances separate but keep each other in the know of things. Creating a budget is the fundamental step in personal finance. If you manage your income and expenses well, you will have a surplus at the end of every month. That should bring you to the issue of allocating your money to suitable asset classes to build a strong foundation for your future.

Your spouse may or may not be financially aware. If both of you earn an income, you need to discuss creating an emergency fund as a priority. Once done, you can carve out money each month for the future.

Even though you are committed to each other in a relationship, you need not have everything in a joint account. Maintain a separate bank and investment account for your monthly investments. You can put the money for short-term or long-term family expenses in a joint account. That could include monthly expenses like groceries, school fees for children or entertainment. The money you need to save for your child's future will only rise with years and inflation. It would be a good idea if together you contribute early.

You need to work like a team with your loved one regarding money. You can divide responsibilities. So, if the investment portfolio needs upkeep, that should be done by one person. That could include talking to financial advisors, understanding current market conditions and making appropriate changes to the portfolio. The most important thing is to communicate with each other on that aspect. You can let your spouse know the meaning of these changes and the reasons for doing them. You must allocate your money to appropriate asset classes based on risk perception. It is an opportune time to discuss them on a money date.

Talk about factors that influence your savings and investments. You can review recommendations made by your financial advisors. If you use separate ones, you can compare notes. Sudden developments in life could bring surprise expenses. You may want to talk about dealing with the financial situation together. That could mean making changes in your saving and investing habits. The most crucial aspect of your conversations should be to make a collective sense of the factors influencing your money. It does not matter whether you are operating together or separately. You must be able to connect the dots and know where to make appropriate changes. The other key aspect of joint finances is to align your investments with your financial goals.

Together, you may think of dreams you wish to achieve in the short or long term. Convert those dreams into individual financial goals. So, it is like sharing your bucket list and figuring out how to tick every line item. Your hard-earned money can do the hard work for you, provided you give it an appropriate direction. That will come from the way you think about your financial goals. Your asset allocation will depend on that.

The other important thing to discuss with your spouse is to enhance your ability to sustain losses or hold your ground for the discipline needed to invest regularly. As a couple, you will face trying times. You must not let your investments suffer. There is always a way out that you can figure out jointly.

SOURAV ROY

PLAN YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS

Your hard-earned money can do the hard work for you, provided you give it an appropriate direction. That will come from the way you think about your financial goals. Your asset allocation will depend on that.

MONEY-WISE

EXCUSES DON'T HELP IN RETIREMENT PLANNING

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

IN the course of the last three decades of dealing with investors and the relationship managers who manage them, ...let me tell you some of the lies that I have heard....

1. I am too young to start investing for retirement: Younger people do not like to hear about saving/investing for their retirement – it is just too far away.

1.a My take: forget retirement, this generation will need money to eat from when they are between jobs. Job loss can happen at 32, while retirement may happen at 60.

2. I have no money to save or invest: I have heard this from people earning ₹9,000 per month as well as from people taking home ₹1,34,000 per month.

2.a Saving is a habit that has to be cultivated when you get your first stipend. Need I say more?

3. I have so much debt, how can I invest: Well, assuming you have debt at 8.7% p.a. interest and a decent Index return of 13% p.a. – it makes more sense to keep investing while repaying the loan.

3.a. Do not give up one for the other. You need to reduce your debt of course, but you also need to keep investing. Start today.

4. Subra I am in the defence forces. My provident fund and pension will take care of my needs. It does not matter if I lose some money in Endowment plans – ulip or otherwise, said a senior person.

4.a. One of the senior defence persons said, "the older people may be bad, but the youngsters of today in the army know everything about investing". He gave examples of how all of them had 'E-brokerage' accounts, and they had attended a two-day session on Technical Trading, conducted FREE by a brokerage house that even helped them open brokerage accounts.

5. 'Subra you talk too much about saving and investing.. we are middle class and not in the greedy rich class...we do not need to worry so much about saving and investing.' She was sure that ₹80 lakh would be available with her at retirement and that she was not worried about how long it will last.

6. I do not understand anything about markets. I need to know how the markets work and then I will start investing. Humorous? well, true but very sad.

7. 'I am a doctor (any profession would do) and I will never retire, so I do not see any need to save/ invest. What this doctor will do if he is forced to retire, is anybody's guess.

8. It is too late Subra! I am 48 years of age and I think it is too late – this is the opposite of 'I am so young..' My take: start, better late than never. If you live till 92, you still have 44 years to go!!

The fact that many Indians aren't saving enough for retirement is downright scary. Not taking enough exposure to equity is even more scary. Without proper government services in place, the vast majority of these people will be forced to subsist on children, government hospitals, relatives or...??? as they live out their final years. If you don't want to be one of them, now is the time to get real about investing for the future.

You may think you can't afford to save for retirement, but you can't really afford not to!

The amazing excuses people don't invest their money abound, but you would be wise to ignore them. Excuses won't help you get ahead; they can only hold you back from the retirement you deserve.

Govt-owned land monetisation firm to hire property consultants

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @New Delhi

IN order to expedite the asset monetisation programme, the National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC) has invited proposal from international property consultancy firms (IPCs) or other consultancy firms.

They will be empanelled to assist NLMC in formulating the monetisation strategy, conducting techno-economic feasibility studies of each of the assets and provide end-to- end transaction advisory services.

The empanelled firms will be engaged for one year initially. The period of engagement can be extended for two years. The empanelled entities will assist in transfer of non-core assets to NLMC in case of CPSEs (Central Public Sector Enterprises) under closure or 100% government-owned CPSEs under strategic disinvestment. They will prepare feasibility reports for each of the assets identified after conducting necessary due diligence, and assist in finalising the model for monetisation and transaction structure.

NLMC is a wholly-owned government company set up under the administrative control of Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) for the monetisation of non-core assets like land and machinery of CPSEs and other government agencies.

At present, there are many operating CPSEs that hold a considerable quantity of land, buildings and other non-core assets across the country, including assets in major cities.

Some of these non-core assets are unutilised or sparsely utilised and there is a significant potential of identification as non-core/ surplus assets for monetisation. Asset monetisation program of the government aims at unlocking the value of such public assets. Both core and non-core assets have considerable potential for generating financial resources for delivering economic and social programmes.

CPSE capex

The Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have achieved capex spending of ₹4.5 lakh crore till the end of 31 December 2022, which is 68% of the full year target of ₹6.62 lakh crore. The capex spending of CPSEs was ₹3.77 lakh crore during April-December period of 2021.

3,552 foreign cos shut operations in India in 5 yrs

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

A total of 3,552 foreign companies and subsidiaries of foreign companies have been closed in the country between 2017 and 2022, the government informed parliament recently.

Responding to a query from a member, minister of state in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs Rao Inderjit Singh recently said in the Rajya Sabha that the reasons for closure of foreign companies in India vary from company to company.

"The closure of operations of a company is a business decision peculiar to each company which may include factors such as cessation of operation of branch office, expiration of validity of permission/licence etc. granted by the Reserve Bank of India, not starting its operation due to change of business policy of the parent company, foreign company establishing a private limited company in India, closure of parent company, closure of liaison office/branch office in India on completion of project of parent company," said the minister in his response.

According to him, there are 14,137 active foreign subsidiaries operating in the country.

The minister was responding to the query raised by a member on closure of operations by foreign automobile companies in India.

So far, four foreign auto companies – Harley Davidson, General Motors, Ford and UM Motorcycles – have shut their operations in India. When asked if 64,000 jobs have been lost in India because of foreign automobile companies shutting operations in India and around ₹2,500 crore investments were lost due to exit of foreign auto companies, the minister said that the government has no such data with it.

Four foreign auto cos shut operations

So far, four foreign auto firms – Harley Davidson, General Motors, Ford and UM Motorcycles – have shut their operations in India. However, the government says it has no record of loss of jobs and investments due to these exits.

EXPRESS READ

Amazon, Flipkart given notices

New Delhi, PTI: Amazon and Flipkart Health plus are among the 20 online sellers that have been issued show-cause notices by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) over the online sale of drugs in violation of norms.

Hitachi India's $20b target

New Delhi, PTI: Hitachi India, part of the Japanese conglomerate Hitachi, aims to work towards contributing $20 billion in the overall consolidated global revenue for the parent company by 2030 with a 'higher double-digit profit', said MD Bharat Kaushal.

FPIs take out ₹9,600 crore

New Delhi: Foreign investors continue to desert Indian stock markets as they pulled out over ₹9,600 crore this month so far on costlier valuation of domestic equities compared to other emerging markets. FPIs flow are expected to remain volatile.

WPL auction: Smriti, Shafali likely to fetch big money

Smriti Mandhana, Harmanpreet Kaur and teen sensation Shafali Verma are expected to spark bidding wars when they go under the hammer during the WPL auction, in Mumbai on Monday. Among the overseas names, Alyssa Healy, Beth Mooney, Elysse Perry, Nat Sciver, Megan Schutt and Deandra Dottin are some of the names expected to enjoy a big pay day.

ENGLAND EYE SECOND WIN

A rare head-to-head will be followed by a do-or-die contest at Paarl on Monday. A look...

Ireland face heavyweights

It will only be the second time these two teams play in a T20I and that tells a lot about international scheduling. Bigger issues aside, Ireland will have to play out of their skin to outdo the batting-heavy English side. If they were able to replicate their show in the Australia warm-up fixture, it could be an exciting contest.

All or nothing for SA & NZ

It is likely going to be the clash that will decide who finishes second in Group B. Having lost their opening games, both South Africa and New Zealand will come out all guns blazing at Boland Park, Paarl. It will be really hard for the team that loses on Monday to make a comeback, but should Bangladesh beat Sri Lanka (was slated to be held late on Sunday), the spot might still be wide open.

87.42 Sophie Devine has the highest T20I average against SA. She strikes at 141.99

6 The last time Ireland played a T20I vs Eng, their star batter Amy Hunter was 6 years old

TODAY'S MATCHES AT PAARL

Ireland vs England, 6.30 PM

South Africa vs New Zealand, 10.30 PM

JEM BY NAME, GEM BY NATURE

Rodrigues takes India home with a nerveless display of back-end batting

GOMESH S
Express @ Women's T20 World Cup
CAPE TOWN

MUNEEBA Ali had just taken off the bails at Newlands. Nashra Sandhu had beaten Jemimah Rodrigues with a sharp dip and turn and the Indian batter was well out of the crease, trying to counter the spinner. In her attempt to get back in the crease, she was almost in a split-like posture. All eyes, including that of a couple of thousand spectators, were on the big screen as the umpire sent it upstairs for a review.

As soon as the 'not out' decision came, there was a sense of relief and cheer across the ground, but especially in the middle. Rodrigues had stretched herself to the limit to ensure that she did not get out. She, it seemed, wanted to be in the middle more than ever.

In the lead-up to the World Cup, the Mumbai batter had not been in good form. Since the Asia Cup, she had made only 85 runs in eight innings at an average of 14.16. However, the team management was not worried.

Batting coach Hrishikesh Kanitkar assured that they were confident in her ability and the way she had been training and batting in the nets. And so was Jemimah. She was keen on not taking any extra pressure. She knew she had done the hard yards and she knew she had put in the effort to be there. For her, it was all about doing the job for the team. At that point, India were 66/2 in 9.4 overs while chasing 150.

India's Jemimah Rodrigues (L) celebrates with Richa Ghosh after their victory over Pakistan in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in Cape Town on Sunday | AFP

But soon, she had to watch her captain Harmanpreet Kaur get out. With Richa Ghosh coming, the onus was on Rodrigues to lead the way. The duo, after all, recently had a good partnership against Bangladesh in the warm-up game.

With India needing 57 from 39 balls. she took on Fatima Sana by moving across to hit the pacer through the fine-leg region. Ghosh, too, joined the party, as she smashed boundaries off Nida Dar and Sadia Iqbal. And slowly, India were getting back in the game. For Rodrigues, however, they were never out of it. Ghosh bludgeoned Aiman Anwer for a hattrick of boundaries before her partner hit Fatima for three of them in the penultimate over to take the side home.

The celebration as she drove Fatima through extra covers said it all. She jumped up and punched the air in delight, with her arms pointing towards the direction of the stands where her parents were. It was an important day, not just for her, but for them as well. Twelve months ago, she was left out of the ODI World Cup. She was distraught. It was her faith and family that took her through that period. She said as much after the match.

"That was the toughest time for me. If not for the family and parents and friends... we would be here till 12 at night if I name them all, my coach Prashant Shetty, we worked really hard. I remember, I took a break. playing for India is something I love. To miss out on that it took me a while, I just think, 'God has given me grace each and every day to push it through,'" she said.

Will she go back and change the way the past 12 months have panned out? She wouldn't. For she believes it is what brought her here and that it is just a small phase in the larger scheme of things that are meant for her in life.

Brief scores: Pakistan 149/4 in 20 ovs (Bismah 68 n.o, Ayesha 43 n.o; Radha 2/21) **lost to** India 151/3 in 19 ovs (Jemimah 53 n.o, Shafali 33, Richa 31 n.o; Nashra 2/15).

Tahuhu lives to fight another day

GOMESH S @Cape Town

LEA Tahuhu didn't become a professional cricketer until she was 25. In fact, she couldn't because of the landscape of the women's game when she started playing for Canterbury at the age of 18. For six years, five of which were after she made her White Ferns debut, she was working as an administrative assistant in an oil and gas company.

Back then, her days began at 6 AM and finished at 8 PM. In 2015, New Zealand Cricket provided central contracts to women for the first time, and then the WBBL happened. Eventually, in 2016-17, when she started playing for the Melbourne Renegades, Tahuhu took a leap of faith and quit her day job as she could finally make a living off just playing cricket.

Since then, Tahuhu, who is married to her Canterbury and White Ferns teammate Amy Satterthwaite, has gone on to become one of the greatest pacers to have played for her country. Despite the many injuries that have curtailed her career, she has the most ODI wickets as a NZ pacer and second-most in T20Is. She has featured in three ODI and as many T20 World Cups — 2023 is her fourth — and has grown into one of the stalwarts of the sport.

And yet, shortly after the home World Cup in 2022, in which she finished as the team's joint-highest wicket-taker, she found herself and her young family of three —Satterthwaite and daughter Grace — in a tricky position. The NZC had not offered contracts to both of them — something that came as a shock, not just to them, but to the entire cricketing fraternity. The decision resulted in 35-year-old Satterthwaite deciding to retire from international cricket immediately.

However, they weren't bogged down by it. They took it upon themselves to make everything smooth for their family. Tahuhu was playing for Manchester Originals in The Hundred and as luck would have it, she was called upon as an injury replacement during the CWG. She made an immediate impact, showing her class and since then she hasn't looked back. A WBBL stint with Sydney Thunder followed while Satterthwaite became an assistant coach at Adelaide Strikers.

"Yeah, look, no secret, that obviously was quite a challenging time for us when the contracts were announced," Tahuhu tells The New Indian Express ahead of the World Cup. "I think, we put that behind us and continue to work through different things. We obviously both continue to play some franchise cricket. I was able to pick up some games for the Thunder, Amy very successfully moved into some coaching with the Strikers and I've been recalled to the White Ferns. I think the way that we've been able to manage that together is just a testament to the strength that we have as a couple. And the support that we have from friends, family, and teammates, it's been incredible."

New Zealand ace Lea Tahuhu is featuring in her fourth T20 World Cup in South Africa

On Saturday, both of them once showed how good they are. Earlier in the day, Satterthwaite led Canterbury Magicians to glory at Hagley Oval, Christchurch, winning the Super Smash title in what was her final T20 game as a cricketer. She finished as the second-highest run-scorer with 376 runs in 11 innings at an average of 53.71.

Meanwhile, halfway around the world, Tahuhu made an immediate impact in New Zealand's first game of the World Cup against Australia at Boland Park in Paarl, dismissing Beth Mooney and Ashleigh Gardner before accounting for Alyssa Healy. In all, Tahuhu finished with 3/37, proving again that she is still a vital cog in the New Zealand setup.

That said, Lea still doesn't have a central contract. She won't at least until the next season begins. Has the thought of taking up a job outside cricket crossed her mind?

"Obviously I've got to weigh that up. I'm now not centrally contracted, I guess. For the past eight months, I haven't really been in New Zealand long enough to be able to even look at starting a job, let alone hold one down because I've probably only been there for a couple of months, since July. A lot could develop and change over the course of the next year. You never know when the contract comes out again in July. So, I guess we'll wait and see what happens there." In the short-term, though, there could be another contract with another team waiting. A gig in the Women's Premier League.

Australia thrash NZ

Despite Lea Tahuhu's initial breakthrough, Australia got to 173/9 in 20 overs, thanks to Alyssa Healy (55) and Meg Lanning (41) at first and then Elllyse Perry, who smashed a 22-ball 40. In reply, New Zealand were in for a shocker as Megan Schutt returned the favour sending back both openers in the first over. From thereon, Ashleigh piled on the misery with a fifer as New Zealand were bundled out for 76.

BRIEF SCORES
Australia 173/9 in 20 ovs (Healy 55, Tahuhu 3/37) bt New Zealand 76 in 14 ovs (Gardner 5/12).

EXPRESS READ

India vs Oz third Test venue to be shifted

NAGPUR: The third Test of the ongoing series between India and Australia to be played in Dharamsala from March 1 to 5 is all set to be shifted to another venue as the relaid outfield is not match ready. According to sources in the BCCI, it is understood that BCCI curator Taposh Chatterjee visited the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association stadium to inspect the pitch and the outfield. He will submit his report to BCCI. Bengaluru and Visakhapatnam are among alternate venues.

India lose to Pak in Asian jr squash c'ship

CHENNAI: The Indian team lost 0-2 to Pakistan in the men's final of the Asian Junior Team Squash Championship here. In the clash between the top-seeded Pakistan and the second-seeded home team, the former came out on top with Noor Zaman and Muhammad Hamza Khan securing wins. While Zaman had to work hard to beat Krishna Mishra, Khan overpowered Paarth Ambani. In the women's final, Malaysia beat Hong Kong China 2-0.

Rashford strikes again as United sink Leeds

LEEDS: Marcus Rashford extended his hot streak with the late goal that inspired Manchester United's 2-0 win against Leeds in the EPL on Sunday. Alejandro Garnacho came off the bench to seal United's hard-fought victory five minutes after Rashford's goal. Later, Man City closed gap on leaders Arsenal with a 3-1 win over Aston Villa. City are now 3 points behind Arsenal. In other football news, Real Madrid lifted the Club World Cup for a record fifth time with a 5-3 win over Al Hilal on Saturday in Morocco.

Saurashtra enter final

AGENCIES

SAURASHTRA secured a place in the Ranji Trophy final for the fifth time in the history of the tournament, defeating Karnataka by four wickets at the Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Sunday.

The 2019-20 edition champions scored the required 115 runs for victory on the final day of the semifinal match to set up a title showdown with Bengal. It will be a repeat of the 2019-20 summit clash, where Bengal had finished second-best. Saurashtra skipper Arpit Vasavada, following his match-altering double century in the first innings, played another polished knock of unbeaten 47 just when the Karnataka bowlers had reduced the team to 42/5 in the second innings. With Karnataka looking poised to defend a paltry 100-plus total on home turf and Krishnappa Gowtham (3/38) and Vasuki Koushik (3/32) on fire, Vasavada remained calm under trying circumstances to guide his side to a hard-fought win in 34.2 overs.

In the other semifinal, Bengal ousting defending champions Madhya Pradesh by 306 runs at the Holkar Stadium in Indore.

Brief Scores: Karnataka 407 & 234 (M Agarwal 55, N Jose 109; C Sakariya 4/45, D Jadeja 4/79) **lost to** Saurashtra 527 & 117/6 in 34.2 ovs (Arpit Vasavada 47; K Gowtham 3/38, V Koushik 3/32). Bengal 438 & 279 in 119.4 ovs **bt** MP 170 & 241 in 39.5 ovs (R Patidar 52; P Pramanik 5/51, Mukesh Kumar 2/35).

Jadeja & Ashwin's twin impact for India

FIROZ MIRZA @ Nagpur

INDIA'S spin duo of R Ashwin (eight in two innings) and Ravindra Jadeja (seven in two innings) shared 15 wickets between them to demolish Australia in the first Test of the four-match series in the ongoing Border-Gavaskar Trophy on Saturday.

Ever since they joined hands during Jadeja's debut in December 2012 against England, their combination has helped the team win matches by the dozen. The pair has accounted for a cumulative 446 wickets in 44 matches so far. They complement each other so well that their presence improves the strike rate of each other making them more lethal. Ashwin's overall strike rate of 51.90 improves to 50.80, a jump of more than a ball, when he has Jadeja for company. Jadeja's strike rate witnesses a huge improvement from 60.00 to 53.40 when the Chennai off-spinner takes the field with him.

DUO'S SHOW TOGETHER

Player	Wkts	5 wkt	10 wkt
Ashwin	242	18	5
Jadeja	204	10	1

India's show with both in playing XI
Matches 44 • Won 33 • Lost 3 • Draw 8 • W/L 11

India's show since they came together
Matches 99 • Won 56 • Lost 25 • Draw 18 • W/L 2.24

Skipper Rohit Sharma was all praise for the tweakers. "It's like captaining (Pat) Cummins, (Josh) Hazlewood and (Mitchell) Starc in Australia. Pretty similar. When you have the quality of Axar (Patel), Jadeja, and Ash, having played in India for so many years, playing on pitches like these, it's always a blessing," Rohit had said on Saturday. "Pitch conditions are there for everyone but what they extract from those conditions make them really, really special."

The duo's artistry with the ball means the offie and the left-arm er have become one of the most-feared bowling combinations in the world. Their exploits in the field also mean they are fast racing to surpass the duo of Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh, who had taken a combined 501 wickets in 54 matches, to become India's most successful bowling pair. On their way to glory, they will also leave behind another Indian pair of Zaheer Khan and Harbhajan, who bagged 474 wickets in the 59 matches they played together.

If one goes by their form, especially in the sub-continent, they will soon overtake the Sri Lankan pair of Muttiah Muralitharan and Sanath Jayasuriya to be the world's most successful spin duo while playing together. The players from the Island Nation had taken a cumulative 667 wickets in 90 matches. However, Muralitharan with 584 scalps holds the major share of that combined effort, which is not the case with Ashwin and Jadeja.

While replying to a query on the secrets behind Ashwin's success, Rohit said: "A lot of cricket and overs have gone into skills and being able to do what he is doing now; to be able to extract something out of pitch, it is not easy. He can bowl that carrom ball, top spin and slider. The guy has got everything. The reason he is able to extract (so much) from the pitches is because of (the) skill-sets that he has."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

LEGEND SPEAKS

If I had to do everything all over again, I would do it: Borg

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

THE air in one of the conference rooms of a plush hotel in Chennai was filled with constant chatter. It was various kinds; undecipherable sounds, humdrum, laughter, conversations of one group overlapping with another. Suddenly, the noise stopped. The laughter had evaporated. Bjorn Borg had just walked in and it looked like the people inside the room stopped themselves in mid sentence to pay their respects to pure tennis royalty.

The 11-time Major champion, who's in the city as chief guest of the Chennai Open (his son, Leo, has received a wild card to feature in the event), was his usual charismatic self. Upon taking the stage with 'my good friend Vijay Amritraj (he's the president of the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association who's organising the Chennai Challenger)', Borg relived the tennis they played when they were competing on Tour, his stint as captain of Team Europe in the Laver Cup, the dynamics with Leo, and the hope of a tennis renaissance in Sweden. *Excerpts:*

On your playing days and whether you would have had the same kind of success if you were a player today

It was a great time. Different players, different personalities. People from all over the world could relate to different players. There were a lot of good players. These days, the competition is tough, there are more players. More countries are playing today than in the past. If I had to do everything all over again, I would definitely do it. But, you have to adapt to the tennis that is being played these days; it is different to what we played. I mean, the guys hit the ball harder. But still, the way we played, the way we supported tennis, the way we wanted to win. I think that we would adapt to the tennis that is being played now. No problems.

Tennis great Bjorn Borg at a press meet in Chennai on Sunday | ASHWIN PRASATH

On mentoring his son

I am very happy to see him play, but not all the time. He has his team, he is doing things with his coach. I think that he does not want to see us all the time (laughs). I love to see him. I mean, it is worse to watch your son or daughter from the stands, because you get even more nervous. It is better when you play yourself, you have no control when sitting in the stands. He is very motivated. He wants to become a really good player. He is working really hard on the court and off the court. We have a really good relationship. He knows what to do and what not do. There is a long way to go.

On captaining Team Europe

Very proud. It is going to be my last year [as captain]. It has been six great years. For me, to be with today's players... because I have to keep a good relationship with all these European players. To be around them, it has been a great experience. What they like, what they dislike regarding tennis. Tell stories... it has been very memorable and fun. These guys are very interesting... they are the greatest players of this time (this era)... we played at our time. To spend around a week with them every year, it is fantastic.

On tennis in Sweden

Vijay and me talk about a lot of things. For us, the vital thing is to promote tennis. We have tennis in our blood. We want our countries to be successful. There are a lot of hurdles to go through. The work Vijay has been doing in India, it has been fantastic. I am trying to push tennis in Sweden; we are a small country. If you look at the [number of] players we had many years ago, it was unbelievable. Today, we have one player in the top-100 [in singles]. India does not have any. We have to look at the juniors. It costs money to sponsor trips, go around the world and play. In the future, hopefully, both countries succeed. We live for tennis, it has been part of our lives. Till we die, it is going to be an important issue for both of us.

Working to get back WTA this September: TNTA

Vijay Amritraj revealed that the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association are working at getting back the WTA 250 event for September 2023. "So, it is a work in progress," he said during a press conference on Sunday. "I'm still hoping to get our WTA back in September. That will be very important for our girls. We are also working hard on seeing if we can get back the ATP 250. The problem is the window is packed and we need to have it in January or February." **Sunday's results (select):** Q1: Sumit Nagal bt Calum Puttergill 6-1, 6-3; Sasikumar Mukund bt Sidharth Rawat 6-4, 6-2.

THE RUNWAY TO A BILLION OPPORTUNITIES

The Indian Government's Defence Exhibition Organisation is all set to begin the 14th edition of the biennial air show and aviation exhibition — 'Aero India 2023', today. The show is scheduled to be held for a duration of four days, till February 17 at Bengaluru's Yelhanka Air Force Station. Notably, amid a push toward achieving self-reliance in the defence sector, Aero India 2023 is set to exhibit various indigenous developments undertaken by aviation as well as the defence sector of the country.

The five-day event will include a major trade exhibition of the aerospace and defence industries in addition to an aerial display by the Indian Air Force. A significant factor in the latest edition of the exhibition will be the participation of think tanks beside global leaders and big investors in the aerospace industry. Notably, Aero India 2023 will play a major role in furthering the scope of achieving self-reliance or 'Atmanirbharta' under the Make in India initiative.

Notably, organised on the theme 'The runway to a billion opportunities', Aero India 2023 is expected to be "the largest-ever aero show organised at Air Force Station, Yelahanka," the has MoD stated. Among the notable events on the sidelines of the exhibition is the Defence Ministers' Conclave themed 'Shared Prosperity Through Enhanced Engagement in Defence (SPEED)'.

The Defence Ministry will organise a 'CEOs Round Table' today, under the chairmanship of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The platform, with theme "Sky is not the limit: Opportunities beyond boundaries", is expected to lay the foundation of a more robust interaction between the industry partners and government with an eye on bolstering the Make in India campaign.

It is further expected to increase 'Ease of doing business' in India and also provide a favorable platform to OEMs for manufacturing in India.

The Round Table will see participation from officials,delegates and global CEOs from 26 countries including global investors such as Boeing, Lockheed, Israel Aerospace Industries, General Atomics, Liebherr Group, Raytheon Technologies, Safran, and General Authority of Military Industries (GAMI).

Meanwhile, various MoUs are expected to be signed under the Manthan start-up event and the Bandhan ceremony. Aero India 2023 will showcase a paradigm shift bought by the Indian Government in organising such events, including DefExpo. The primary focus of Aero India 2023 is set to be on increasing defence exports and forging partnerships while pursuing the modernisation of the Indian Armed Forces.

The biennial aviation exhibition provides a unique opportunity for the exchange of ideas, information and new developments in the aviation industry.

Furthermore, the scope of enhancement in the domestic aviation industry gets a boost.

Up to 731 exhibitors have registered for the event. Out of the registered exhibitors, 633 are domestic while 98 are foreign exhibitors.

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Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Extraordinary Flights Within the 'Precision' World

When Amado Tools was awarded the National DRDO Award for the indigenisation and production of Servo Valve in 2018 by then Defence Minister, Nirmala Seetharaman, the company with its humble beginnings in 1980 in Kottayam, Kerala, had pulled off a significant victory. Currently based out of Bengaluru, Amado is at the forefront of manufacturing precision machined components for Indian and global Aerospace & Defence companies.

Deepak Sebastian receiving the DRDO award from Nirmala Sitharaman, then Minister of Defence, in 2018

Deepak Sebastian is passionate about the manufacturing of precision engineered components and bullish about the emergence of the aviation industry in India. The CEO of Amado Tools, a company that manufactures high-quality precision components & assemblies for Aerospace, Oil & Gas, Defence, Automotive and Healthcare industries and launch vehicles, is glad with the recognition the company has received. He emphasises that this is the result of having the right team on board and working on exciting projects with passionate engineers to push the envelope of innovation, to realise the dream of 'Make in India'.

Today, Amado Tools offers a range of precision components & assemblies which includes:

- Servo Valves
- Actuators
- Inertial guidance assemblies such as accelerometers & gyros
- Fasteners
- Precision Aerospace components
- Indigenisation of imported assemblies

The Beginning - A Journey Towards Precision

The journey began in 1980 in Kottayam at the Ettumanoor Industrial Estate under the name of Jojo Industries. Started by Deepak's father, Sebastian Joseph, a Mechanical Engineer from Trivandrum Engineering College. A veteran with work experience in Railway Design and Research Organisation, Shimla, and Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC), Ranchi, Sebastian Joseph started Jojo Industries with an aim of achieving engineering excellence and meeting the requirements of customers for precision components.

Deepak and his younger brother, Jeev P. Sebastian, joined the company in the early 1990s. Subsequently renamed Amado Tools, the company began to grow in terms of capability. Deepak envisioned enrolling India's premier space research organisation ISRO. Incidentally, during one of ISRO's trials, a product from a vendor failed and a replacement from Deepak's company was used. This was found to be successful which gave ISRO the confidence to engage with Amado Tools.

Towards Greener Pastures

Over time, the company established its reputation with ISRO and Deepak contemplated expansion even as they were considering relocating to Chennai or Coimbatore. Bengaluru was the destination of choice, considering its weather and the fact that it was a hub of aerospace innovation being led by the likes of DRDO, ISRO, and HAL among other companies.

WHEN SMALL IS BIGGER

Amado Tools started building relationships with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and DRDO. Amado also developed the Solenoid Valve for DRDO which has precise machining requirements and was a crucial tool for their missile programme. "We developed it and the trials convinced the organisation, which further boosted our confidence," Says Deepak.

Amado's big break came due to circumstances that followed Pokhran-II. Certain Western countries at that time, imposed an embargo on the supply of all critical parts to Indian aerospace industries. One of the crucial components was the Servo Valve, essential for precise movement and controlled flight of an aircraft. Only 2-3 countries in the world possessed the know-how and this had to be developed indigenously.

Servo Valve

Servo Actuator

Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, the then Defence Secretary made it a priority task for the DRDO to develop the valve. Many large and small players were involved in this effort including Amado Tools. Led by Deepak, the team at Amado Tools toiled hard day and night. They were in the race to develop the component against companies many times their size and better equipped in terms of resources and manpower.

"We constantly interacted with the laboratory in Hyderabad and its scientists. After a lot of trial and error, in about 30 months, we succeeded in meeting all parameters. That was a huge achievement for us," says Deepak and adds that the scientists at the government-owned laboratory worked even on weekends. "We were inspired by their dedication and our continuous interaction helped in finally achieving the colossal feat, he says.

Once the desired tolerance and accuracy for the Servo Valve were achieved, the Government of India decided to create an exclusive facility for the manufacturing of these valves. Rs. 50 crore was invested to establish a temperature-controlled facility with two clean rooms & world class machines. "For the first time, DRDO sanctioned a GOCO (Government-owned, Company Operated) model of operation. For the last 15 years, 46 employees of Amado Tools have been managing the facility and it has become a role model in GOCO mode," Deepak notes.

Among the company's other significant achievements are the indigenisation of the Pop Out Indicator, Fuel Filler Cap, Ejection Spring, and a few other critical components for the Advanced Light Helicopter developed by HAL. These parts have received Type Approval from CEMILAC.

Today, Amado Tools has created the right eco-system for Indian & International Companies to outsource their precision machined components & assemblies with confidence.

"Our customers benefit from our long experience & expertise to design, develop, manufacture, test, deliver on time with reliable after sales support," says Deepak.

He strongly believes in the diverse Indian Manufacturing capability. Deepak envisions a very bright future where International Aerospace & Defence companies seek to partner with Indian companies in manufacturing some of their critical products.

Amado Tools is well placed to contribute to this 'Make in India for the World' growth story.

To learn more about Amado Tools, visit Stall No. F.3.14 at the Aero India 2023.
or contact Amado Tools Ph: +91-80-2573 1050/1
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The Art of Love
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DAY'S DIARY

Dwarf star discovered

In 2004, astronomers announced the discovery of the largest known diamond-like object in the galaxy, a pulsating white dwarf star, 50 light-years from Earth

COSMIC DIAMOND

The cosmic diamond is a chunk of crystallised carbon in the constellation Centaurus. It's the compressed heart of an old star that was once bright like the Sun

THE NAME

Known by its prosaic catalogue number, BPM 37093, the dwarf was also given the nickname Lucy after the Beatles song, *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*

A NEW RECORD

The diamond star completely outclassed the largest diamond on Earth, the 546-carat Golden Jubilee which was cut from a stone brought out of the Premier mine in South Africa

'WHAT MATTERS IS IF I AM ABLE TO CREATE MUSIC THAT CONNECTS'

Music composer of *Jehanabad - Of Love & War*, Sujeet Shetty gives *CE* an insight into its making and working across different languages

DESE GOWDA

PAN-India music composer and singer **Sujeet Shetty**, known for his works in movies such as *Jothegara, Kariyavoram, Leela, Besharam* among others, has recently forayed into the OTT space, composing for Sony Liv's *Jehanabad - Of Love & War*. A crime-thriller based on real-life events and helmed by veteran Sudhir Mishra, the show explores a love story in the backdrop of the Naxal insurgency in Bihar, with music playing a vital role in the narrative.

Having been associated with the show's director Rajeev Barnwal since working with him on the hit song *Love Ki Ghanti* for the Ranbir Kapoor-starrer *Besharam*, Shetty says the experience was constructive. "Rajeev had a clear idea about what he wanted, so it was straightforward. For each situation that the showrunners asked us to create a song for, we did nearly six songs. Rajeev was happy to be spoilt for choice," he shares.

The album contains six songs, four narratively interwoven songs and two wedding tracks. Among the former, Shetty says

A still from the show

Lal Salam is an anthem of revolution and denotes the voice of the oppressed rising up against tyranny. But his favourite is *O Piya*, a song about love. "As soon as I finished the composition, I knew it was going to be a good song. It fits in beautifully with the script," he shares.

Having predominantly worked on feature-length and short films, did Shetty have to modify his work flow for the show? "I don't see any difference in composing for a feature film, a web series or a short film. At the end of the day, music is the same regardless of the medium," he says, adding, "What matters is whether I am able to still create music that can connect with the audience."

Despite being born and raised in Mumbai, Shetty started his musical journey in Bengaluru. Having taken keen interest in the performing arts while pursuing engineering, Shetty made a few crucial industry connections while in the city. "I used to participate in many events, taking home so many trophies while in college that people started getting sick of it," he laughs. "I also met Lahari Velu, one of my good friends in the city during that time. I did a few albums for Lahiri. Later, I moved back to Mumbai and started working on films."

Shetty has worked across many languages, including Kannada, Telugu, Tamil and Hindi. Has language ever been a hindrance? "As long as you know where to break sentences, it's not. If you don't know where to break sentences, then it becomes a problem, because sometimes it can alter the meaning entirely," he explains, adding, "I usually compose with the lyrics, so it's not really a problem for me. The success that artistes like Shreya Ghoshal and Ricky Kej have enjoyed is a prime example."

GRUB HUB

Avin Thaliath (@chef_avin), pastry chef and the director of Lavonne Academy of Baking Science And Pastry Arts, dishes out a food-related quiz in this weekly series. Be a real 'whisk' taker and let us know if you have what it bakes. Who knows, your dreams may crumb true.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE*. The first prize winner this week will win a voucher worth ₹1,000 from Smoor, Sadashivnagar **

THE RIGHT ANSWERS
1) Kulkul 2) Khaja
3) Tekeli Pitha

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT
1) Swathi Bhat
2) Vyome Chaugule
3) Ramit Batra

CITY READ

Ramaiah Institute of Technology bags all-India college basketball championship

The Arena Cup 2023 was conducted by BITS Pilani Hyderabad between February 2-5, 2023, in which several colleges, namely, SRM University, Loyola College, BITS Goa, and Christ University participated in this tournament. The finals were played between Ramaiah Institute of Technology and MLR Institute of Technology, Telangana. In the semifinals, Ramaiah (RIT) beat Loyola College 76-69 to reach the finals. In the finals, RIT, Bengaluru 84 beat MLRIT, Telangana 81. They also bagged the state-level inter-college championship for IISc CUP 2023 which was conducted by the IISc, Bengaluru.

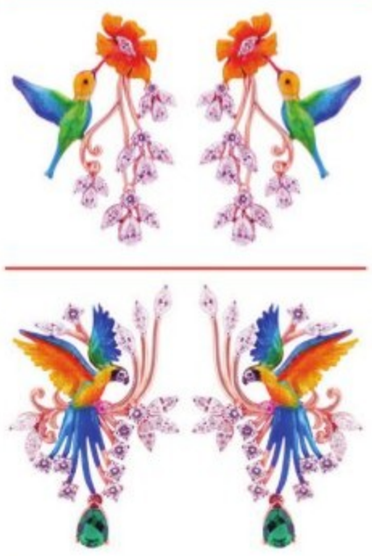
TagHive's Class Saathi becomes tech enabler of choice for Karnataka schools

TagHive, a Samsung-backed ed-tech firm that launched the Class Saathi solution for in-class and at-home student assessments, has become a tech enabler of choice among top private schools across Karnataka. The app's design allows for customisation to meet the needs of both English and regional language assessments.

XPRESS FOCUS

Featuring a new collection of jewellery for the season of 'Love'

A special Valentine's day collection by C. Krishniah Chetty Group of Jewellers, **Wings of Love** embraces the season of fondness with exquisite diamond jewellery collection with minimalistic and modern designs.



Birds are one of the many love symbols. Wings of Love collection is inspired from Love birds and parrots - 'birds that love each other' and known for sharing a strong bond. This collection exhibits the purest kinds of love through their distinctive forms, motifs, and colourful plumage. Each product is created and developed to elicit the highest compliments from your admirers.

The designs in the collection depict the brewing love story that blooms into a beautiful relationship. Each piece in this elegant colourful diamond collection is carefully designed to spread the true meaning of love.

This collection is crafted in 18k rose, white and yellow gold studded with diamonds and coloured gemstones like Aquamarines, Blue sapphires, Rubies, Pink sapphires, Yellow Sapphires, Orange Sapphires, Amethyst, Green Sapphires, Peridot and Brown Topaz, enhanced with bright enamel hues which display captivating combination of brilliance that promises a unique and mystical journey.

Available at: All showrooms of C. Krishniah Chetty Group Of Jewellers and **https://www.ckcjewellers.com/wingsoflove Price Range Starting from INR 50,000/-.**

AMETHYST

Discover the trivia behind Amethyst and check out the stunning designs that will brighten up any outfit with their ultimate touch of bling. Additionally, as part of Founders' Day, the month (1st February to 28th February) in which CKC's legacy was born, the jeweller is offering 5%-18.69% off on select Gold and Diamond pieces at The Grand 1869 Sale.

The offer is available across all C. Krishniah Chetty Group of Jewellers showrooms.
Website: **www.ckcjewellers.com/amethyst**.

XPRESS FOCUS

REVA University Organised 'Khel Khoj' to Revive Traditional and Indigenous Games

The REVA University campus turned into a game and activity zone recently as the education institution hosted *Khel Khoj*, an event that revives and rejuvenates the traditional and indigenous games of the bygone era in India. The event held at the REVA campus saw thousands of children and teenagers thronging and becoming part of *Khel Khoj*, as well as providing insights to modern society on the importance of traditional games and bringing them back as a component of the Indian Knowledge System.

Mullai Muhilan M.P. IAS, Commissioner, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Govt of Karnataka inaugurated the event. Congratulating REVA for taking up such an endeavour, he said that the traditional games are not just games, but a treasure trove for generations to come. "It is a commendable effort from REVA as they create a common platform for awareness of the long-forgotten games as well as their revival. I wish REVA makes this an annual event for years to come," he stated.

Speaking about *Khel Khoj*, Dr P Shyama Raju, Chancellor of REVA University said that this was the first time in the country that a University has thought of recreating Indian heritage and bringing back old games through an event.

Khel Khoj, organised by the Department of Sports & Physical Education and supported by other schools since REVA University is multidisciplinary and is one of the many initiatives started by REVA to strengthen the Indian Knowledge System amongst our youth as well as bring back the traditional games. With this, REVA aligns with G20 and make India Presidency a hallmark, to ensure our culture and heritage is strengthened through Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

Umesh S Raju, Pro Chancellor, REVA University facilitating Mullai Muhilan M.P. IAS, Commissioner, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Govt of Karnataka

Praising the efforts of *Khel Khoj*, Umesh Raju, Pro Chancellor of REVA University said that India has a rich culture and tradition and has always included sports and games with some ancient games dating back thousands of years. "I am proud that we can prove that we are a multidisciplinary university. All schools from Engineering to Management to Commerce to Humanities to Science have participated in these events. We are now a Social Impact University and we have invited all schools colleges and also our adopted schools under Abhivriddhi for *Khel Khoj*. G20 is our focus and we want to prove *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* by organising *Khel Khoj*."

Many games and sports were organised all over the campus. The old martial arts like *Kalaripayattu* to *Malla Khamba* to *Thang Ta* were performed as part of *Khel Khoj*.

The whole sports fiesta was a melange of students of various schools, REVAites, teenagers, and various other children participating in different games so that they

Students performing Malla Khamba

get to know indigenous games and take pride in the Indian Knowledge System. The stalls of each game were packed with students and other participants.

Khel Khoj was open to all teenagers between the age group of 13 to 16 and for the youth and families who would like their children to gain the advantage of some of these age-old games.

As part of *Khel Khoj*, more than 35 indigenous games like *Lagori, Kancha, Gilli Danda, Chaupar* to *Silambam* to *Mallakhamb* that have their roots in various Indian states were played.

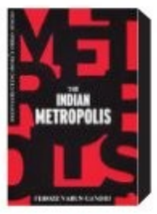
In its initial phase of *Khel Khoj*, REVA focused on field sports, martial arts, and indoor / board games, with intentions to expand on this with additional native games from different parts of the country.

The event saw each school of REVA University taking up two indigenous sports and showcasing them by exhibiting under various categories like the history of the sport, the values each game inculcate and showcasing the sport with various costumes, equipment and pictures.

Our culture is so rich in tradition and some of the games like Kho Kho and Kabaddi have come back to modern life. But children have forgotten some of the olden games played like *Kunta Atta* or *Langdi* or *Pagade* to name a few. None of us remember these games now. At REVA, we wanted to bring back this childhood in our students.

Dr P Shyama Raju, Chancellor of REVA University

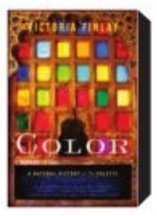
BOOK NOOK



The Indian Metropolis

by Feroze Varun Gandhi

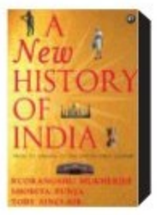
The book seeks to begin a national conversation on these issues and suggests ways to turn our cities into enabling, energising environments geared towards enhancing the daily life of the average city dweller.



Color: A Natural History Of The Palette

by Victoria Finlay

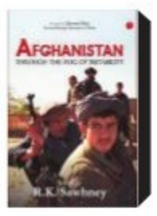
The book takes us on an enthralling adventure around the world and through the ages, illuminating how the colors we choose to value have determined the history of culture itself.



A New History of India

by Rudrangshu Mukherjee, Shobita Punja, Toby Sinclair

The book brings the story of one of the oldest, most complex countries on earth – India – to vivid life by blending state-of-the-art pictures and maps with a text of depth, clarity, and rigorous scholarship.



Afghanistan: Through the Fog of Instability

by RK Sawhney

The book covers the historical overview—from ancient times to the takeover by Taliban 2.0—that gives the readers a peek into how the country was at one point of time.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Feel the thrill

Experience paragliding and fly high in the skies above the scenic Nandi Hills valley.
WHERE: Nandi Hills, Chikkaballapura
WHEN: Feb 13, 8pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Tasty Treats

Enjoy various delicious dishes, from Korean and Chinese cuisines such as bibimbap Korean and Chinese cuisines. **WHERE:** China Bistro, Indiranagara **WHEN:** Feb 13, 8pm **DETAILS:** dineout.co.in

Funny Matters

The daily open mic where you'll find some of the most hilarious and seasoned comedians of the city dishing out their best jokes.
WHERE: Just BLR, Brigade Road
WHEN: Feb 13, 8pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

On a High

Try out Skandagiri Sunrise Trek to enjoy the misty view from the top of one of the most scenic hills near Bengaluru.
WHERE: Meet up at Gopalan Arcade, Mysuru Road
WHEN: Feb 13, 11pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Wine(y) Monday

Get a first-hand experience on the wine-making process. Afterwards, indulge in a wine tasting session while taking in panoramic views. **WHERE:** Rico Vineyad and Winery, Yelahanka **WHEN:** Feb 13, 8pm **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Difficult Conversations

Crossing Over brings to the forefront an important but neglected aspect - conversations about death, and how important it is for both preparedness and closure. Based on a collection of four short stories, based on real-life incidents, the play talks about people who are terminally ill and are at the end of their lives.
WHERE: Vyoma Artspace and Studio Theatre, JP Nagar
WHEN: February 18, 5.30 pm **DETAILS:** 9845274154

Fusion Brunch

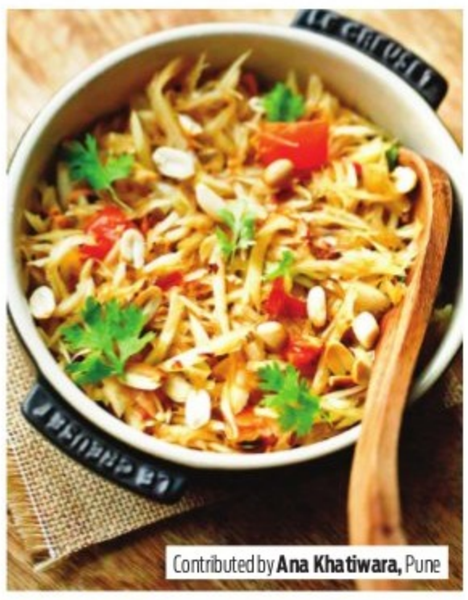
Embark on a culinary adventure, savouring Caribbean-style chicken satay, taco pizza, kesari risotto with nihari and teriyaki chicken with Korean chilli. **WHERE:** The Hebbal Café, Courtyard By Marriott, Hebbal
WHEN: February 12 **DETAILS:** 9606482968

SNAPSHOT

Participants in cutural events, organised at Ravindra Kalakshetra as part of the 25th anniversay of the Tuluvara Chavadi, take a selfie | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICK FIX

RAW PAPAYA SALAD



Contributed by **Ana Khatiwara,** Pune

INGREDIENTS

- **Raw papaya:** 1 whole
- **Garlic:** 4 cloves
- **Sugar:** 3 tsp
- **Cherry tomato:** 3 or 4
- **Lemon juice:** 4 tsp
- **Coriander leaves:** 1 or 3 tsp
- **Ginger:** 1/2 inch
- **Green chilli:** 3 or 4
- **Salt:** 1 or 2 tsp
- **Soy sauce:** 1 tsp
- **Mint leaves:** 1 or 2 tsp
- **Roasted peanuts:** 1/2 cup

METHOD

- In a mortar, add ginger, garlic, and chopped chilli along with sugar and cherry tomato. Pound it.
- Pour it into a bowl. Add soy sauce and lemon juice. Adjust it if you like more.
- Pound roasted peanuts and put it into the same bowl with shredded papaya.
- Garnish with coriander and mint leaves and serve.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

KONA PURVOTTANASANA PREP

(UPWARD PLANK POSE FOREARMS PREP)

This is mainly designed to prepare the beginners for Upward Plank Pose Forearms. It teaches learners systematically to use the body and breath internally and externally. It creates the required stamina to perform the variety of forearm balancing asanas.

STEPS

- Start by sitting tall in Dandasana (Staff Pose), knees and legs extended straight, feet flexed, toes pointing up, lengthening the spine, shoulders rolled back, palms placed on the ground to support the back.
- Engaging the quads, stay here for a few breaths.
- Drawing the navel into the spine and press the heels down. Bend your hands in elbows, lower the forearms down.
- Now place the elbows down, right under the shoulders to lean back so that your torso forms a 45-degree angle with the floor.
- Keep the neck away from the chest and make sure you look to the front.
- Make sure the palms are placed outside the hips, fingers are pointed towards the big toes.
- Keep the legs active and make sure your feet don't fall apart.
- Stay here for 3-5 deep breaths.
- Release and come back in Dandasana and relax.

BENEFITS

- Stretches the front body muscles, lifts the chest, gently opens the muscles around the chest, neck, upper arms, forearms, and shoulders.
- Stretches the entire back of the legs, lengthens the legs, thus helps to tone them.
- Makes the body flexible, stable and prepares you for the next level pose.
- Stretches the intercostal muscles resulting in the opening of the chest cavity; thus increasing the lung capacity.
- Creates space for the chest and the rib cage to expand and contract with the breathing.
- Encourages the students to be conscious.
- It helps to open the chest and shoulders.
- Stretches the legs completely from the upper thighs to the tip of the toes.
- It helps to improve building core, back, and legs.
- Works as a creative de-stressing yoga pose.
- Abdominal and pelvic floor muscles are engaged, the organs around get a fresh supply of blood.
- It is considered to be effective for women.
- It also helps to correct bad posture.

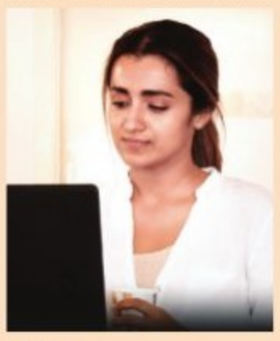
LIMITATIONS

People with injury or surgeries at the shoulders, elbows, neck, chest, or hips, those who cannot sit properly, have recently recovered from hip-surgery and cannot balance, senior citizens with severe arthritis and those with anxiety, avoid this pose.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL



RAANGI (Tamil)

When an online predator targets her niece, a bold journalist springs into action, but gets entangled with a rebel in a warring nation across the world.
Cast: Trisha Krishnan
Watch on: Netflix

GODFATHER (Telugu)

A political leader's death leads to a power struggle. Amid corruption, greed and deceit, an unlikely opponent steps up.
Cast: Chiranjeevi, Nayanthara
Watch on: Netflix

DHAMAKA (Telugu)

Two total strangers who happen to look alike – one a street-smart hustler, the other a wealthy corporate heir – compete for the same woman's love.
Cast: Ravi Teja, Sreeleela, Jayaram
Watch on: Netflix

HONEYMOON (Punjabi)

A newlywed couple's honeymoon in London turns into a hilariously chaotic trip when the pair's clueless family crashes the romantic getaway.
Cast: Gippy Grewal, Jasmin Bhasin, Nirmal Rishi
Watch on: Netflix

CHUP: REVENGE OF THE ARTIST (Hindi)

A lonesome director and his new muse, and a psychopath who is on a killing spree targeting film critics in Mumbai. Are the two related? Inspector Arvind Mathur and Dr Zenobia are about to find out.
Cast: Sunny Deol, Dulquer Salman
Watch on: ZEE5

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

LOVE TODAY (Tamil)

Before they get married, a couple must swap phones for 24 hours at the behest of the bride-to-be's suspicious father.
Cast: Pradeep Ranganathan, Ivana, Yogi Babu
Watch on: Netflix

RAM SETU (Hindi)

An atheist archaeologist turned believer must race against time to prove the true existence of the legendary Ram Setu before evil forces destroy the pillar of India's heritage.
Cast: Akshay Kumar, Jacqueline Fernandez, Nushrratt Bharuccha
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

FOREIGN

PRIVATE LESSON (Turkish)

Posing as a private tutor, Azra secretly coaches students on achieving their goals in life and love – but not without a few bumps in the road.
Cast: Bensu Soral, Halit Özgür Sarı, Helin Kandemir
Watch on: Netflix

JUNE & KOPI (Indonesian)

A street dog is taken in by a young couple, and the family pit becomes an instant accomplice as she adjusts to her new, loving home.
Cast: Acha Septriasa, Ryan Delon, Makayla Rose Hilli
Watch on: Netflix

NARVIK (Norwegian)

Against the backdrop of the WWII battle known as Hitler's first defeat, a Norwegian soldier returns home and learns a shocking truth about his wife.
Cast: Kristine Hartgen, Carl Martin Eggesbø, Christoph Gelfert Mathiesen
Watch on: Netflix

BEAST (English)

A new thriller about a father and his two daughters who find themselves hunted by a massive rogue lion.
Cast: Idris Elba, Liyabuya Gongo, Martin Munro
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION

Prime Video:	₹179 per month
Zee5:	₹399 for 3 months
Sony LIV:	₹299 per month
Netflix:	₹149 per month

THE ART OF LOVE

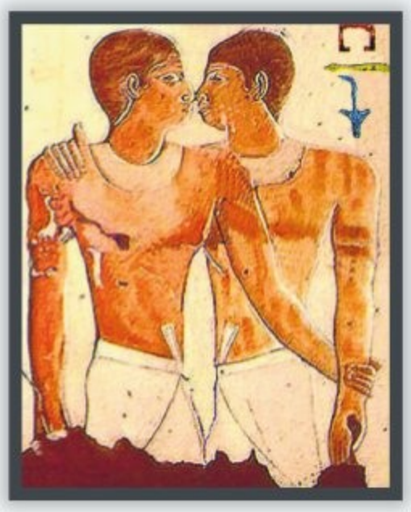
It's that time of the year when love is in the air. Red roses sell like hot cakes, romantic images with proclamations of love clog the internet and secret rendezvous lurks around every corner. Promises are made, candles are lit over wine and the world seems like the sweetest dream you've ever had. It's Valentine's Day, of course!

Love, one of the most powerful emotions that has kept the human race alive through every catastrophe, has always found its way into art. No artist could resist the temptation that love offered to weave its magic into canvases and stone. Here's a look at some of the most evocative works of art in history.

Love has been the subject of inspiration for many artists, who've depicted this emotion through all faces and phases of love. Artist **Jitha Karthikeyan** walks us through the gallery of some masterpieces

THE KISS
BY GUSTAV KLIMT

What is love without a kiss? Austrian artist Gustav Klimt's oil painting, 'The Kiss', painted in 1908, showing a couple in deep embrace enveloped in dazzling splendour with added gold leaf, silver and platinum, was created at a very critical phase in Klimt's career. He had just completed his ceiling paintings for the University of Vienna which were considered pornographic due to the inclusion of nude figures. Perhaps 'The Kiss' was an attempt at softening the blow of all the criticism he was facing then. The painting is considered to be an image of the artist himself with his partner, Emilie, who in spite of Klimt's wayward ways, remained his companion till the very end. A truly iconic painting that stands as a symbol of tenderness and passion till this very day.



GENDERLESS LOVE

Love knows no gender boundaries. The ancient mural of Khnumhotep and Niankhkhnum from 2400 BC is proof that it has always been so. The two were ancient Egyptian royal servants, and the mural shows the pair holding hands. Though the exact nature of their relationship is not known, the murals show them in a pose usually reserved for a married couple. It has been argued that this may be the oldest gay couple ever documented.

The topic is still being explored in art with Indian-Canadian artist, Sunil Gupta, recently exhibiting his powerful body of photographs that revealed gay encounters in culturally oppressive atmospheres that belittle homosexual love.

FRIDA KAHLO AND DIEGO RIVERA

Then there are those artist couples whose love and art are so entwined that their artworks are almost a documentation of their love stories. Mexican artists Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera did portraits of each other for 25 years through all their messy fights and heartbreaks, giving us an insight into their often troubled relationship. Yet, they kept coming back to each other, drawn by the power of a deep love, until Frida's death in 1954. " It is not love, or tenderness or affection, it's life itself", Frida once remarked of her feelings for Diego.

THE PASSING OF SHAH JAHAN
BY ABANINDRANATH TAGORE

Perhaps one of the most poignant works of art that tugs at all our hearts with its sensitive portrayal of love is 'The Passing of Shah Jahan' by Abanindranath Tagore from 1902. In the painting, a weak and powerless Shah Jahan, imprisoned by his own son, Aurangazeb, rests on a bed in his final moments, longingly gazing at the Taj Mahal that he had built for his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. All the accompaniments of love — loss, yearning and separation flow like poetry in this soul-stirring painting.

Throughout history, artists have always attempted to spread the message of love through their art. Yayoi Kusama's 'Love is Calling' and Banksy's 'Love is in the air', showing a masked militant hurling a bouquet of flowers are powerful messages about the need for love to replace all the hate being hurled around. Love, in its purest form, is divine. It is only when man-made divisions and cultural conditioning corrupts this emotion that absurd wars break out over love. On its own, love can only heal and brighten our worlds and art is testimony to that!

SHAKUNTALA
BY RAJA RAVI VARMA

A painting that most of us in India are familiar with, sometimes hanging on walls as calendars in many of our homes, 'Shakuntala' by India's celebrated artist, Raja Ravi Varma oozes with love and longing. Pretending to remove a thorn from her foot, she yearningly looks out for her husband, Dushyantha. The gaze says more than words ever can.

UNTITLED (WATERING FLOWERS)
BY WANG XINGWEI

Wang Xingwei is considered one of China's most important contemporary artists today and his painting titled 'Untitled (Watering Flowers)' of a man whose head takes the form of a watering can while that of the woman is shaped like a blossoming plant in a pot, is a reminder to all of us that any relationship needs to be nurtured, and helping each other is the core of any bond.

THE LOVERS
BY RENÉ MAGRITTE

Another kiss but strangely, with the barrier of fabric is 'The Lovers' by Belgian artist René Magritte from 1928. The artist was famous for wrapping his subject's face with cloth, lending a certain mystery to the image. The presence of the enshrouding veil could mean that it is possible to experience love without the sense of touch or sight — a blind and discreet form of love!

THE BIRTHDAY BY MARC CHAGALL

'The Birthday' was painted by the Russian-French artist, Marc Chagall in 1915, as an ode to the love of his life — his wife, Bella. Meeting as teenagers, they got married in 1915, in spite of stiff opposition from her parents. Chagall painted this a few weeks before his marriage, and lends a dream-like feel to it by picturing himself as floating above Bella, while she also seems to be ready to fly away, bouquet in hand — a scene of eternal bliss. There is love dripping like wet paint in this painting.

HUES OF LOVE

Love cannot be confined to compartments of desire and passion. Art history is replete with artworks that show the vast expanse of the emotion — from sibling love to parental love and the warmth of friendships too. Vincent Van Gogh's portrait of his brother Theo Van Gogh, who he considered the anchor of his life, is an archetype of sibling bonding. It was Theo's financial and emotional support that allowed Vincent to focus on his practice of art. The two brothers remain united in death, with their final resting places next to each other. Who we love notwithstanding, self-love is important too. Many artists have captured this shade of love in art; Amrita Sher-Gil's 'Self Portrait' from 1933 being a fine example. Looking out of the canvas with an enigmatic smile and twinkling eyes, the artist seems to remind us all — that loving oneself is self-empowering.

MARINA ABRAMOVIC AND ULAY

Two performance artists, Marina Abramovic and Ulay, who began their careers in 1976, madly in love with each other, living in a van and passionately turning their love into a performance are remembered not just for their body of works created together but also for their final performance as an ending to their 12-year relationship. Titled 'The Lovers', the couple started walking from opposite ends of The Great Wall of China and met midway after three months of trekking to say their goodbyes to each other. After 20 years of no communication that followed, Ulay suddenly showed up at one of Abramovic's performances, and what followed was an incredibly moving moment with both of them blinking away tears. While Ulay died in 2020, Abramovic still exhibits and performs. Sometimes it is only in retrospect that the nuances of love are truly understood.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAVI ELLURAYYA, Residing at: No.1315, 11th Block, 2nd Cross, 5th Main, Lalbahadur Shastri Nagar, J P Nagar, 8th Phase, Bangalore - 560078, have changed my minor son's name from **VARSHITH R to VEDANTH R** vide affidavit dated 10.02.2023 sworn to before Advocate and Notary M. Narendran, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **SHASHIKALA** W/o Ashok, Aged about 28 years, residing at Hadnoor, Chittapur, Sannur Post, Kalaburani, Karnataka-585102, Now R/at Gollahalli Village, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District- 560099, I, declare that my PF/UAN wrongly mentioned in my name name is **RYAVAMMA** instead of **SHASHIKALA** I have decided to continue my name in future as **SHASHIKALA** vide affidavit dated 14-03-2022 sworn to before Advocate and notary Muniswamy .T, Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) RAFIULLA SHARIEFF,** residing at No. 55, C.K.Road, Channapatna Town-562160, Ramanagaram District, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) RAFIULLA SHARIEFF** to **(NEW NAME) RAFIULLA SHARIFF** vide affidavit Dated 28/12/2022 sworn before Notary A.R.Nagendra, Channapatna.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DODDAIAH** S/o **Kallaiah,** R/at No.54, Ganakallu, Kengeri Hobli, Opp Govt School, Kengeri Post, Kengeri Bengaluru- 560060 have changed my name to **DODDAIAH.K** and **DODDAIAH KALLAIAH** vide affidavit dated: 11/2/2023 Before Notary **H.S.Sakalesh Aradhya** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ZAINAB** D/o **Syed Jaffar** R/at No.1167, 19th Cross, 1st Stage, 3rd Block, HBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name to **ZAINAB S J** vide affidavit dated: 8/2/2023 Before Notary **Sivakumara M.N** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **N. MERRY RABECCA** D/o Sri Nagaraju, aged about 23 years, R/at Menasiganahalli Village, Vankanahalli Post, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **N. MERRY RABECCA** to **HAMSASHREE .N,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **HAMSASHREE .N** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 10-02-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PRAKASHA .C** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
WE, KSHAMA SURESH and MAHESH MANEY. R. R/a #319, 3rd foor, 8th main road, 3rd A cross, vyalikaval, Bangalore- 560003 Declare that in our Son's Birth Certificate, Son's name has been mentioned as VASHISTA M. MANEY (DOB: 07.05.2019), Mother name as KSHMA SURESH and Father name as GOVINDARAJU. G.K instead of Son's name as VIVIN M. MANEY, Mother name KSHAMA SURESH and Father Name MAHESH MANEY. R. vide affidavit dated 03.01.2023 sworn before notary Ramesh Kumar. K. Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VENKATA SUBBA REDDY DUBBA,** (vide **Passport No. J2808563, Date of Birth: 14.07.1978**) S/o. Mr. Dubba Rama Swamy Reddy, Residing at House No. 4, Pushpa Nivas, 5th Cross, 4th Main, SLN Layout, Munnekolala, Marathahalli Post, Bangalore - 560 037, Karanata, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **VENKTA SUBBA REDDY DUBBA** to **VENKATA SUBBA REDDY DUBBA,** vide affidavit dated 11.02.2023, sworn to before K.V. Jagannath Reddy, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **MOHAMMED MEERAJ UGGA** and **TAMANNA AFREEN,** Residing at No. 341, 7th Cross, "C" Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570015, now at Bengaluru, have changed my minor son's name from **RUSHAAN MOHAMMED MEERAJ UGGA** to **RUSHAAN UGGA,** vide affidavit dated: 10.02.2023 before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

NAME CONFIRMATION
I SHIVARAJ BASAVARAJ INDI S/o. Basavaraj Indi, Aged about 41 years Residing at No. 835, 13th Cross, 2nd Phase, 2nd Stage, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru - 560072, Karanataka, herby solemnly Affirm and State that My Name has been wrongly mentioned in my PAN card and my PASSBOOK records as SHIVARAJ Instead of SHIVARAJ BASAVARAJ INDI. However my name has been correctly mentioned in my Aadhar card. I declare that My correct name is SHIVARAJ BASAVARAJ INDI and Not SHIVARAJ. Vide affidavit dated : 06-02-2023 Before 6th Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PRIYANKA MAHENDRA JAIN (OLD NAME),** Aged About 26 Years, W/o Naman Jain, Residing at No 18, 10th Main, 26th Cross, Banashankari, 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560070, have changed my name to **PRIYANKA JAIN (NEW NAME),** Vide Affidavit Dated 06/Feb/2023, Sworn Before Notary Gangaraju. B. N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PRITHVIRAJ KUMAR** S/o Late. **Prithviraj Kumar Tirunalvelli Vardaraj** R/at No.10/9, 1st Cross, Jyothi Nagar, Horamavu Agara, Bengaluru- 560043 have changed my name to **HARISH PRITHVIRAJ** vide affidavit dated: 10/2/2023 Before Notary **Mir Zia Ulla** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **Mr. V M ROHIT,** S/o T.V. Pavithran, aged about 38 years and **Smt. ARYA VIJAYAN,** W/o Sri V.M. Rohit, aged about 38 years, both R/at Flat No. 403, 4th Floor, Olive Block, H.M. World City", J.P. Nagar, 9th Phase, Bangalore-560062, do hereby declare that we have changed our daughter's name from **KIARA VACHALI** to **NILA VACHALI,** henceforth she shall be known and called as **NILA VACHALI** only, vide affidavit dated 11-02-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **AMBRESHAPPA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Manish Kumar, S/o. Rajendra Lal, aged about 49 years, R/at B-105, Sai Purvi Grand, Thigarapalya, Near Ryan International School, Brookefield, Kundalahalli, Marathahalli Post, Bangalore - 560 037, I have changed my minor daugher's name from **'KASHISH'** to **'KASHISH RAJ'.** Vide Affidavit dated 10.02.2023, Sworn before VI Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, **NEERJA CAPRIHAN,** W/o Anshuman, aged about 45 years, R/at No.2A, Tejpunj Apartment, 20/1, Aditi Green Scapes, Venkateshpura, Bengaluru-560064, have changed my name from **"NEERJA MARCHANDA" to "NEERJA CAPRIHAN"** vide affidavit dated 06.02.2023 sworn to before Notary **Ravi Kumar .V,** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MOHAMMED FAHAD KAREEMULLAH,** aged 21yrs, S/o. Kareemullah, No. 16/1, 2nd Floor, Jolly Masjid Road, Jolly Mohalla, Cottonpet, Chickpet (PO), Bengaluru-560053, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED FAHAD,** vide affidavit dated: 10.02.2023, before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **MOHAMMED MEERAJ UGGA** and **TAMANNA AFREEN,** Residing at No. 341, 7th Cross, "C" Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570015, now at Bengaluru, have changed my minor son's name from **ABDULLAH MOHAMMED MEERAJ UGGA** to **ABDULLAH UGGA,** vide affidavit dated: 10.02.2023 before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Smt. Kanuku Sunandamma @ K.Narayanamma [UAN No. 100002360706 P.F.No. BGBNG 164 6401000 0010056] aged 42 years D/o. K.Narayanappa and W/o. Kotha Reddy Srinivasa Reddy residing at Kempegowda Nagar, Doddaballapur Town, Bengaluru Rural-561203 have changed my name from **KANUKU SUNANDAMMA to K.NARAYANAMMA** vide affidavit dated 06/02/2023 sworn before advocate and notary A.R. Sampath Kumar, Doddaballapur

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DAGA VINITA PRAKASH (OLD NAME),** W/o Dheeraj Ashok Katariya, Residing at No 328, 10th A Main, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560070, have changed my name to **VINITA KATARIYA (NEW NAME),** Vide Affidavit Dated 24/01/2023, Sworn Before Notary Gangaraju. B .N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SARAH LEO BARNABAS** W/o **IAN BESTERWITCH** R/at No.503, 3rd Floor, 3rd B Main, 5th Cross, OMBR Layout, Kalyana Nagar, Bengaluru-560043, have changed my name to **SARAH IAN** vide affidavit dated: 11/2/2023 Before Notary **H.S.Sakalesh Aradhya** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Smt. INDRANI** W/o Late Gundappa, aged about 49 years, R/at No. 7, 1st Cross, Cashier Layout, Tavarekere, Bangalore-560029, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **B.V. INDIRAMMA** to **INDRANI,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **INDRANI** only, vide affidavit dated 10-02-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **P.N. NAGESHA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Manish Kumar, S/o. Rajendra Lal, aged about 49 years, R/at B-105, Sai Purvi Grand, Thigarapalya, Near Ryan International School, Brookefield, Kundalahalli, Marathahalli Post, Bangalore - 560 037, I have changed my minor daugher's name from **'ANUSHKA'** to **'ANUSHKA RAJ'.** Vide Affidavit dated 10.02.2023, Sworn before VI Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DIVYA M.** W/o Mr. Abishek Belagodu, presently residing at No.275/1, 9th 'A' Main, 2nd Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560011, have changed my name as **DIVYA M ABISHEK,** vide affidavit dated 11-02-2023 before Notary Public **MOHAMMED HUSSAIN K,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NEHAD RAHMAN,** aged 26yrs, D/o. Late. Nabib Rehman, Residing at No. 10, 6th Cross, Shivaji Road, N.R. Mohalla, Mysuru-570019, now at Bengaluru, have changed my name to **NEHAD REHMAN,** vide affidavit dated: 10.02.2023 before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NASEEBA TAJ ASLAM PASHA,** aged 41yrs, W/o. Kareemullah, Residing at No. 16/1, 2nd Floor, Jolly Masjid Road, Jolly Mohalla, Cottonpet, Chickpet (PO), Bengaluru-560053, have changed my name to **NASEEBA TAJ,** vide affidavit dated: 10.02.2023, before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MILAN KUMAR N, (Date of Birth 13/05/1991) S/o Narayana Rao S N, resident of #279/3, 1st Main, T.Dasarahalli, Bangalore North, Bangalore- 560057 have changed my name to BALRAJ RAO S N** vide affidavit dated: 11.02.2023 sworn before advocate and notary Kodi Nagappaya, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **UDAYA KUMAR REDDY YARABOLU (OLD NAME),** Aged About 44 Years, S/o Maheswara Reddy Yarabolu, Residing At No 26, Kanasu, 1st Cross, Ananda Layout, Virupakshapura, Bengaluru-560097, have changed my name to **UDAY KUMAR REDDY YARABOLU (NEW NAME),** Vide Affidavit Dated 07/Feb/2023, Sworn Before Notary Gangaraju. B .N, Bengaluru.

NAME DECLARATION
I, **JAYAMMA,** aged about 49 Years, W/o Krishnappa, Indian habitant, R/at No.20, Ramesh Reddy B, Nagamma Layout, Bellandur Post, Bengaluru-560103, hereby declaring that my both name's **"JAYAMMA, & "ANU .R"** is belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 10-02-2023 before Notary & Advocate, **P. Nanjunda,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **V ROHINI,** aged about 57 years, W/o V. Jagannath, R/at #1681, 2nd cross, Anikethana Road, Kuvempu Nagar, JT Extension, Mysuru-570023, Karnataka State, today camping at Bengaluru, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ROHINI CHANDRA V** to **V ROHINI,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **V ROHINI** only, vide affidavit dated 07-02-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **GANGARAJU .B.N** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, Vaibhav Jain, S/o. Mr. Abhay Kumar Jain, aged 38 years & Neha Jain, W/o. Mr. Vaibhav Jain, aged 39 years, R/at A-503, Vaswani Brentwood, Vibgyor School Road, Opposite Gyanoday Jain Temple, Thubarahalli, Bengaluru 560066, We have changed name of our minor son from **'NEVAAN BADKUL'** to **'NEVAAN BADKUL JAIN'.** Vide Affidavit dated 11.02.2023, Sworn before Advocate & Notary Indira S.S, Bengaluru.

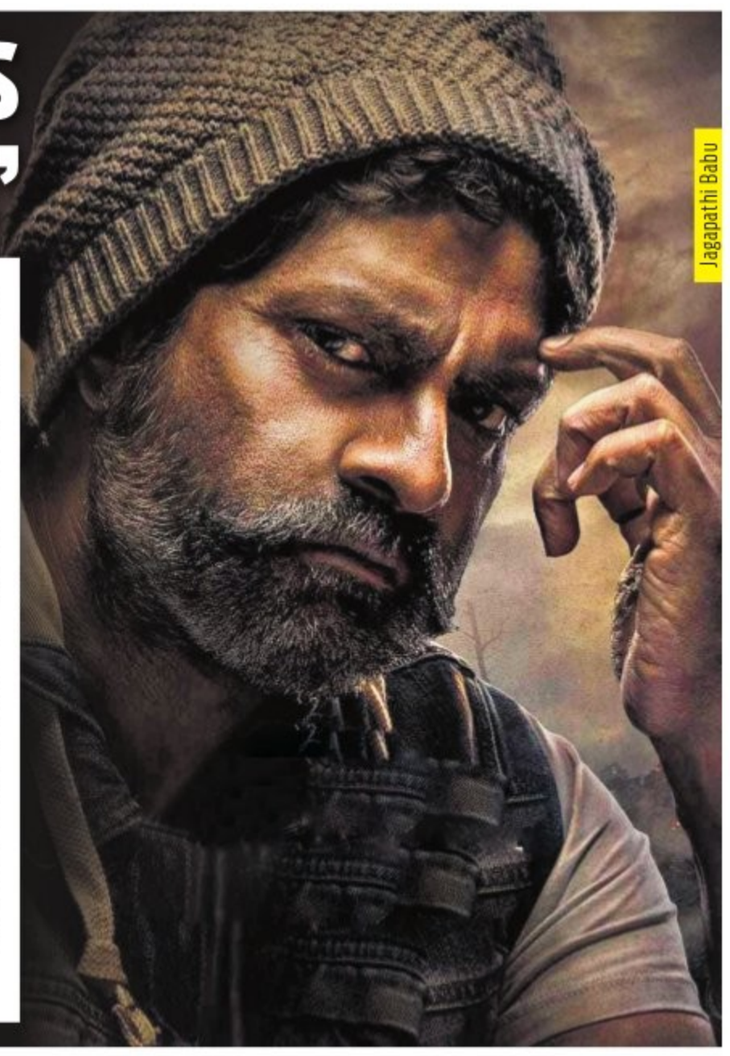
AFFIDAVIT
I, **ASHOK KUNDAPUR,** aged about 41 years, S/o. Prakash Kumar Kundapur, Residing at No. 30, 2nd A Cross Road, Shani Mahatma Temple, Jakkur Layout, Bangalore - 560 064, do hereby state that my name mentioned in Aadhaar card (Aadhaar No. 6527 5053 7641) as **ASHOK KUNDAPUR** and in my D.L (No. KA34 20000002602) and SSLC MARKS CARD (REG No. 196132) and PUC MARKS CARD (REG No. 234980) and Degree Marks Card (Reg No.0346607) and MBA Marks card (Reg no.0679210) the name is mentioned as **ASHOK P KUNDAPUR** and my name is in passport (No. H9537562) as **KUNDAPUR ASHOK PRAKASH.** I hereby declare that my names as **ASHOK KUNDAPUR** and **ASHOK P KUNDAPUR** and **KUNDAPUR ASHOK PRAKASH** all above mentioned names which are mentioned in various documents belongs to me and same person, hereinafter I shall be known and called as **ASHOK KUNDAPUR** vide affidavit dated 10.02.2023, sworn to before K.V. Nanjaiah, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **KAREEMULLAH** and **NASEEBA TAJ,** Residing at No. 16/1, 2nd Floor, Jolly Masjid Road, Jolly Mohalla, Cottonpet, Chickpet (PO), Bengaluru-560053, have changed our minor daughter's name from **MAHIN FATHIMA KAREEMULLAH** to **MAHIN FATHIMA,** vide affidavit dated: 10.02.2023, before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **TAMANNA AFREEN SHAHUL HAMEED HAJI AMEEN,** W/o. Mohammed Meeraj Ugga, Residing at No. 341, 7th Cross, "C" Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570015, now at Bengaluru, have changed my name to **TAMANNA AFREEN,** vide affidavit dated: 10.02.2023 before notary GANGARAJU .B.N, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MALLARAJ .J.N, aged about 39 years [DOB 29/10/1984], S/o. Nanjaiah, (Jullana Nanjaiah), residing at No.273, 'Sampath Nilaya', Muddinapalya, Pragathi Layout, Viswaneedam, Bengaluru-560091, have changed my name to MALLARAJ URS** vide affidavit dated 04/01/2023 sworn before advocate and notary R. Raghunath Rao, Bengaluru.

'JAGAPATHI BABU DOES JUSTICE TO ANY ROLE'



A SHARADHAA

RUMOURS about actor Jagapathi Babu being part of Challenging Star Darshan's next, tentatively titled *D56* has been doing the rounds for some time now. Rockline Entertainments, the makers of *D56* officially confirmed the news on the actor's birthday.

This marks Jagapathi Babu's second collaboration with Tharun and Darshan after *Roberrt*. Speaking to CE, Tharun said that the character demanded someone in Jagapathi Babu's calibre, and their combination was a successful one already. "He is a versatile actor, and he does justice to any role given. The role in *D56* will see Jagapathi Babu in a different shade, and he is happy to explore this particular character," says the director, who also mentioned that the actor has completed shooting 10 days of his portions, and a lot more sequences will be shot in the upcoming schedule.

Meanwhile, the makers will be revealing the title on February 16 on the occasion of Darshan's birthday. *D56* also marks the debut of Malashree's daughter Radhana Ram.The director, who has kept a lot of details about the film under wraps, and had only revealed that the film is based on a real-life incident. Backed by Rockline Venkatesh, the film has Masthi penning the dialogues, and Sudhakar S Raj handling the cinematography for the film. The makers are yet to reveal the music director.

AR Rahman's *Le Musk* bags nomination for PGA Innovation Award

CE FEATURES

THE Producers Guild of America (PGA) has announced the nominees for the PGA Innovation Award. Making India proud, AR Rahman's *Le Musk*- A Cinematic Sensory Experience has bagged a nomination.

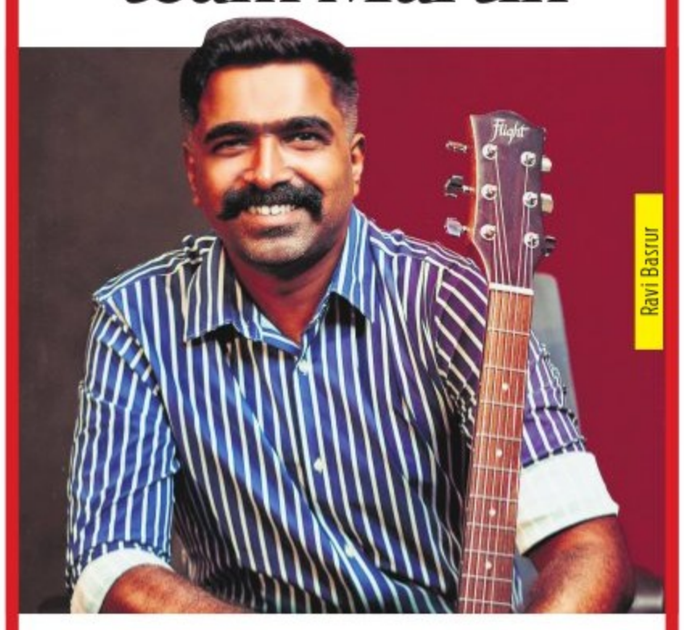
Co-produced and directed by music composer AR Rahman, *Le Musk* (2022) is a virtual reality thriller film starring Nora Arnezeder, Guy Burnet, Munirih Grace and Mariam Zohrabyan. On April 27, 2017, a preview of *Le Musk* was exhibited at the NAB in Las Vegas in space featuring a multi-sensory "Positron Voyager" VR motion platform. Rahman premiered the film's music, Scent of a song, at the 72nd Cannes Film Festival.

The film recounts the life of an orphaned girl who becomes a diva on a mission while also working as a full-time heiress and part-time musician. She had one consistent companion the entire time: the lingering Muskan scent. Her life, however, takes a drastic turn when she gets an anonymous note that recalls her enigmatic past.

The veteran music composer took to his social media handles to share the news. Sharing The Hollywood Reporter's coverage of the nomination, Rahman wrote on Twitter, "Producers Guild Reveals 2023 Innovation Awards. Le Musk experience, Nominated .... EPI" (sic)

The PGA Innovation Award honours the creation of a notable, important novel media program that improves the viewing experience for the audience greatly. Instead of recognising individual producers, the PGA will recognise the winning program as a whole.

Music director Ravi Basrur joins team *Martin*



CE FEATURES

THE talkie portions of Dhruva Sarja's upcoming multilingual action entertainer, *Martin*, has been completed. Director AP Arjun is currently busy with the post-production work. Meanwhile, the makers have roped in Ravi Basrur to take care of the background score and sound design.

Talking about this upgrade in the team, Arjun said that the film is made on a big canvas and will be released in multiple languages. "Since *Martin* is an action saga, we were particular with the background score, and knowing Ravi Basrur's previous work, we felt he would do be the best fit," says Arjun.

> *Since Martin is an action saga, we were particular with the background score, and knowing Ravi Basrur's previous work, we felt he would do be the best fit*
>
> A P Arjun, director

The team, which took over 40 days alone to shoot the climax sequence had Ravi Varma choreographing the chase scenes and Ram-Lakshman for the fight scenes. The songs are by Manish Sharma.

The team is now left with shooting for 4 songs, which they plan to can between March and April, and the makers will be revealing a teaser soon. The film, produced by Uday K Mehta, has *Gaalipata 2* heroine Vaibhavi Shandilya playing the lead and features Anveshi Jain as a pivotal character. The film also marks the debut of Nikitin Dheer.

Ravi Basrur, who rose to fame with *KGF* has also worked in a couple of Hindi films. The composer's next release will be *Kabzaa*, which is slated for release on March 17.

A still from *Martin*

The film, starring Vinnod Prabhakar, billed to be an out-and-out action entertainer is helmed by Pramod Kumar

Senior actors Malashree, Shruti unveil the first song from *Lankasura*

CE FEATURES

VINNOD Prabhakar is getting ready for the release of *Lankasura,* and the team began the promotion of the film by releasing the first song, *Modern Mahalakshmi*.

The track was unveiled by noted actor Malashree, in the presence of actor Srinagar Kitty, Shruti, producer MG Ramamurthy, and director Guru Deshpande. "I'm a big fan of Vinnod Prabhakar, especially for his action scenes," said Malashree, who wished the team a huge success. Shruti said that she has acted with Vinnod's father, Prabhakar, and now with his son in his other film, *Madesha*.

"I'm glad to know Vinnod and Nisha have turned producers with *Lankasura*." Written and directed by Pramod Kumar, the action film is based on the underworld, and the makers have roped in five stunt choreographers to design high-octane action sequences for the film. *Lankasura*, featuring Parvathy Arun as the female lead, also stars Yogi in a prominent role along with actors Ravi Shankar and Devaraj appearing in pivotal characters. The film has four songs, and all songs are penned by director and lyricist, Chethan Kumar, and music is composed by Vijay Krishna, who has also rendered his voice for the song *Modern Mahalakshmi*.

Lankasura has Sugnan handling the cinematography. The film is now in the post-production phase, and the makers will soon be announcing the release date.

Pruthvi Ambaar's *Dooradarshana* to hit screens this summer

The film, directed by Sukesh Shetty, will release on March 3

CE FEATURES

PRUTHVI Ambaar, who was last seen in Shivarajkumar's *Bairagee*, is now gearing up for his next release. The actor's next, *Dooradarshana,* will see its release on March 3. An official announcement about the release was made on Sunday.

Directed by debutant filmmaker Sukesh Shetty, *Dooradarshana* is written by the director himself, who has previously worked in Tulu films, and the Kannada film, *Trunk*. Set in the 1980s, *Dooradarshana* is the story about how the entry of television changes the life of a group of villagers residing in the Western Ghats. The film features Aayana as the female lead and stars Ugramm Manju, Veena Sunder, Harini Srikanth, Huli Karthik, Suraj, Surya Kundapur, and Deepak Rai Panaje.

Produced by Rajesh Bhat's VS Media Enterprises, *Dooradarshana* has Arun Suresh handling the cinematography, music by Vasuki Vaibhav, and editing by Pradeep Rao.

Based on a real-life incident of human rights violation, the film will have a March 3 opening

Here's the release date of director Mansore's *19.20.21*

CE FEATURES

19.20.21, the next film of Mansore, the director of *ACT-1978,* is set for a March 3 release. Interestingly, the film will be distributed by Reliance Entertainment across Karnataka and in other states, and the team will be launching the trailer on February 15.

Coming from the National award-winning director, *19.20.21* is based on real events depicting violations of human rights, and stars Shrunga BV, Balaji Manohar, MD Pallavi, Rajesh Nataranga, Avinash, Mahadev Hadapad and Venkatesh Prasad in key roles.

"This is story of a young tribal boy, a journalism student who fought against the system for his community and their constitutional rights. He is the first person who entered higher studies in the whole tribal community. It's a story of a community too who suffered decades from bureaucrats." says Mansore.

A still from *19.20.21*

Director Mansore

The director says that *19.20.21* emphasises that no matter who you are, if you are an inhabitant of India, you are entitled to live anywhere in this nation and avail your constitutional rights. "You can demand your fundamental requirements from the government. If any bureaucracy attempts to stifle your voice or deny you of your rights, you don't have to pick physical force. You have the mightier option of the Indian Constitution with its Articles 19, 20 and 21 to back you up." he adds.

Presented under Aagaaz Entertainment, Mansore has teamed up with producer Devaraj R (D Creations) for the second time after *ACT-1978*.

Sharing his thoughts about backing Mansore's *19.20.21,* Devaraj says he was truly astounded by the filmmaker's technique in making the plans, scheduling, and controlling the crew. "It is fascinating how talented he is in translating scripts into stunning visuals. I am always in search of stories that will make people ponder. This film is certainly one such story. When I produced *ACT-1978,* I was certain that it would raise awareness about the issues of corruption and how the systems work. When I heard the story for *19.20.21*, I had the same confidence about the results of the movie," adds Devaraj.

IT'S A WRAP UP FOR *SAW X*

CE FEATURES

SAW X, the latest film in the Saw franchise has wrapped up filming, the film's director announced on Saturday. Director Kevin Greutart, who also directed *Saw 3D* and *Saw VI,* revealed that the cast and crew wrapped filming on February 10 in Mexico City.

Saw X's timeline will reportedly be set between the original *Saw* and *Saw II*. There are no other details about the plot of the upcoming slasher film. *Saw X* will see the return of John Kramer played by Tobin Bell, the original Jigsaw, reprising his role as the franchise's villain.

Also, actress Shawnee Smith will reprise her role as Amanda Young.

Along with Bell and Smith, the cast will include Synnove Lund, Steven Brand, Renata Vaca, Paulette Hernandez, Octavia Hinojosa, Joshua Okamoto, and Michael Beach. Saw X is written by Pete Goldfinger and Josh Stolberg. Lionsgate returns to produce the film with producers Mark Burg, Oren Koules, Ulrich Maier, and Erick Ahedo. *Saw X* will be the tenth instalment in the franchise, and it is currently slated for release on October 27.